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Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

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TODAY: STAGE The 2 Lid Piano, Page 12

Paris, Bonn And London Seek Merger In Aerospace

Integrated Firm Could Compete With the U.S., 3 Nations' Leaders Say

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS.— Leaders of Europe's three leading aerospace-manufacturing countries issued an urgent appeal Tuesday to consolidate the industry into a combined civil-defense company to compete on a world-wide scale with its American rivals.

In a joint statement, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany, President Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Lionel Jospin of France and Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain proposed expanding the European Airbus consortium into an integrated company that would also produce fighter jets, helicopters and missiles.

The leaders asked for a clear plan and detailed timetable for the consolidation to be presented in less than four months.

"Time is not on our side," the French defense minister, Alain Richard, said at a news conference.

Airbus already has a nascent military arm, which is weighing the production of a European transport aircraft early in the next century.

The consortium, which groups the civilian aircraft industries of France, Germany, Britain and Spain, has well over 30 percent of the world market for civilian jets with more than 100 seats, and has said that it wants to increase that share to 50 percent.

The leaders asked their respective industries to present a clear plan for integrating the civilian and defense industries by March 31. The Airbus consortium is made up of Aerospatiale of France and Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG of Germany, each with 37.9 percent; British Aerospace PLC, with 20 percent, and Casa, or Construcciones Aeronauticas of Spain, which owns 4.2 percent.

In Rome, Prime Minister Romano Prodi immediately expressed "strong interest" in having Italy's Alenia group, which is involved in other projects with Airbus, join the proposed partnership. The French government said it hoped Saab of Sweden also would take part. Construcciones Aeronauticas also presumably would be involved.

The initiative coincides with the restructuring of Airbus into an ordinary corporation by Jan. 1, 1999.

With no common European corporation law, it now has a peculiar structure known as a "Grouping of Economic Interests," in which the participating companies keep their individual identities.

A unified corporate status would enable it to raise capital on the world market to pursue expansion plans, including the building of a more than 500-seat jet aimed at breaking Boeing Co.'s domination of the market for large wide-bodied jets with its aging 747 model. Boeing has abandoned plans to

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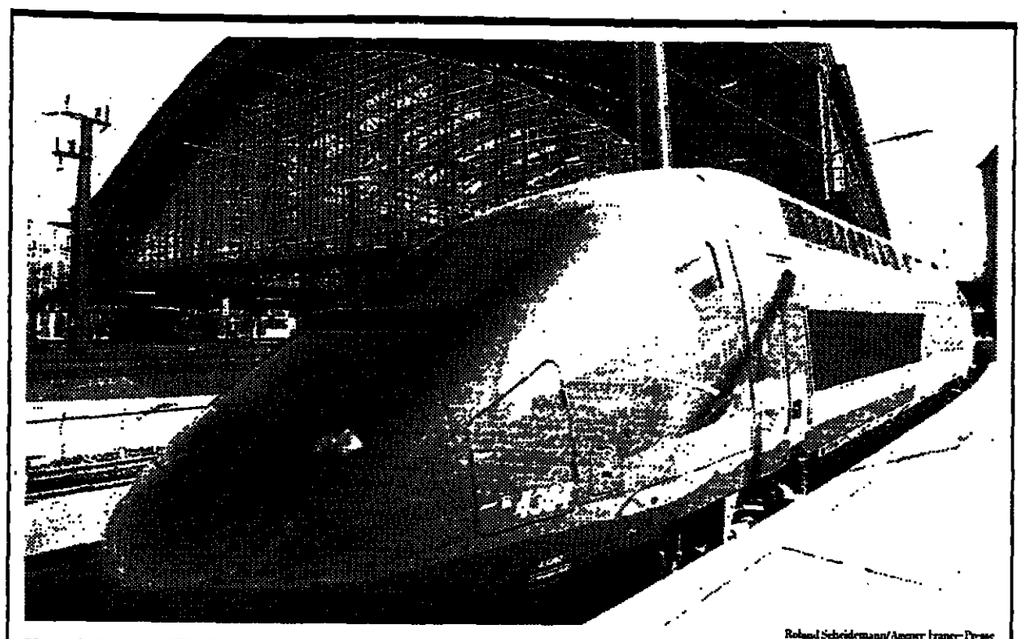

Roland Schneidermann/Agence France-Presse

The high-speed Thalys service will cut travel time between Paris and Brussels to an hour and 25 minutes.

European Travel Hits the Fast Track

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — Europe will move into a new era of high-speed travel on Wednesday as France and Belgium inaugurate a railroad line that will clip more than 30 minutes off the trip between Paris and several destinations in northern Europe.

Albert II, king of the Belgians, will travel by special train to the Gare du Nord station in Paris on Wednesday to launch the service, which will cut traveling time for the 300-kilometer (190-mile) journey between Paris and Brussels to an hour and 25 minutes. He will be welcomed at the station by Transport Minister Jean-Claude Gayssot of France and Louis Gallois, president of SNCF, the French national railroad company.

Commercial service, with departures every hour in each direction — and every half hour at peak periods — will begin Sunday.

The upgrading of the service is part of a four-nation collaboration to overcome national borders and make the train competitive with air travel.

The service, known as Thalys, will branch out from Brussels to Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Liege, Cologne and other cities.

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Iranian Leaders Air Differences in Public

Deep Divisions in Tehran Hierarchy Emerge as Islamic Summit Opens

By John Lancaster
Washington Post Service

TEHRAN — Seeking to end its diplomatic isolation, Iran opened a summit meeting Tuesday of Islamic leaders aimed at forging unity among the world's 1 billion Muslims. But the gathering only underscored deep divisions within Iran itself, as the country's top political leaders offered starkly contrasting views on relations between Islam and the West.

In a fiery opening speech, Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei, the country's supreme leader, lashed out at Western powers, in particular the United States, which he accused of "global arrogance" and assorted other sins against Islam.

He railed against the "global Zionist media," blasted the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace process as "unjust, arrogant, contemptuous and finally illogical" and warned the United States to pull its warships out of the Gulf, which he described as "an Islamic sea."

But President Mohammad Khatami, a moderate cleric elected in May, made an entirely different impression, speaking of the need for tolerance and understanding among people of different faiths.

He emphasized the need for civil society and the rule of law, called for the protection of religious minorities and, perhaps most surprising, urged his fellow Islamic leaders to learn from the West if not to emulate it.

"Our era is an era of preponderance of Western culture and civilization, whose understanding is imperative," said Mr. Khatami, a mullah and architect of Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution who lived for a time in Germany.

He said that Islamic nations would succeed in moving forward only if they "utilize the positive scientific, technological and social accomplishments of Western civilization, a stage we must inevitably go through to reach the future."

The two opening speeches were symptomatic of a deepening power struggle in Iran between religious hardliners and moderates, led by Mr. Khatami, whose advocacy of greater cultural and personal freedom has won him widespread support among women, young people and the educated elite.

Rarely, however, have those differences been aired in such a stark and public manner.

The two men spoke on the opening day of the eighth summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which brings together ministers, princes, heads of state and other dignitaries from 55 Islamic countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

The presence of so many foreign leaders, many of them close allies of the West, has significantly boosted Iran's international prestige at the expense of the United States, which accuses Iran of sponsoring international terrorism and has sought to isolate the Islamic republic through a trade embargo and diplomatic means.

Iran is also seeking to use the three-day summit to improve relations with neighboring Arab countries that have long accused its clerical leaders of packaging their revolution for export. Among the Arab leaders in attendance Tuesday were President Hafez Assad of Syria, Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian

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Day of Reckoning for Asian Economic Giants

Tokyo Weighs a Program to Rescue Banks

By Mary Jordan
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Back in Japan's heady days, Isao Ogawa sewed custom-tailored suits for the rich. But after the 1991 stock market and real estate crash, he put his fine fabrics away. "People didn't have big money anymore," he said. "They started buying suits off the rack."

Mr. Ogawa, 55, now sells baked octopus snacks to commuters at a busy train station. He figured his modest new venture was safe because people will always be hungry. But he now feels his job threatened once again by a falling economy.

"Usually December means money. It's when people spend. Not this year," Mr. Ogawa said, as increasingly money-conscious people walked right by him and his $3.40 treats. "Life is hard."

Millions of people here feel the same way. It is difficult to find anyone — young or old, student or pensioner — who does not feel at least pessimistic about the economic outlook. Apprehension about corporate bankruptcies, layoffs, stock market crashes and the diminishing value of the yen against the dollar not only is making people glum, it also is changing their spending habits.

In an effort to stem the gloom, Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto made public Tuesday that he was studying an emergency plan to restore confidence in the nation's banks. Mr. Hashimoto is considering raising $80 billion by issuing a new type of government bond and using that vast sum to stabilize financial institutions.

Over the next several days, more details of the emergency package are to be released, including tax cuts intended to stimulate the economy and get people shopping again.

"This week Japan either turns around or doesn't," said Richard Medley, an influential political adviser to the financier George Soros and many international investment groups.

Mr. Medley, who is also associate director of Yale University's Center for International Finance, said that if the government does not stabilize the banks, the stock market will drop and the yen will dive against the dollar. "But if they do, the Asia currency crisis is over," he said. "It's that stark."

Many economists are warning of severe consequences if Japan does not intervene. It will be a "crisis the likes of which we have not seen in a major economy since the 1930s," said Russell Jones, chief economist for Lehman Brothers in Tokyo.

"There are no soup kitchens yet, but

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Seoul Asks U.S. and Japan to Unlock Funds

By Andrew Pollack
New York Times Service

SEOUL — South Korea's government, worried that the international rescue of its economy has not calmed its jittery financial markets, called Tuesday on the United States and Japan to quickly provide some money they had pledged only as a last resort.

The request, less than a week after the bailout was announced, comes amid growing signs that the International Monetary Fund's rescue program has not restored investor confidence in the country's shaky financial system.

Markets trembled Tuesday after more details emerged about just how close South Korea came to defaulting on its debt denominated in foreign currency before the bailout was announced. The won is in free fall, having lost 20 percent of its value against the dollar in the last two days, stocks are tumbling and interest rates hover near 15-year highs.

"If the U.S. and Japan committed to supporting the Korean economy, they should support the economy at the early stage, rather than waiting," Finance Minister Lim Chang Yuel said in an interview Tuesday. "This will stabilize the markets here."

An IMF report released by Seoul said usable foreign-currency reserves were only $6 billion Dec. 2, the day before the accord was reached, Reuters reported.

According to a Finance Ministry official, the Bank of Korea was burning through its reserves at the rate of as much as $2 billion a day to help the country's banks, which had been denied access to short-term loans by foreign banks. That indicates Seoul had only a few days left before default.

The last official government figure for foreign-currency reserves was $30.5 billion as of Oct. 31, which the IMF said shrank to $23.9 billion by Dec. 2. But the IMF said $17.9 million of that sum was unusable, as it was tied up in the offshore subsidiaries of South Korean banks, which needed it to pay off short-term debt as their credit lines were pulled.

Mr. Lim denied increasing speculation in financial markets that the $60 billion bailout would have to be increased. "I think we can make it," he said. But some of the money from Tokyo and Washington should be "front-loaded," he said.

Washington pledged $5 billion and Tokyo $10 billion. But the amounts, along with those of other countries, constituted a "second line of defense," to be used only if the first line, $35 billion from the IMF, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, proved insufficient.

The Clinton administration, in an at-

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Nearing Finish, Climate Talks Study 2 Offers

By Joby Warrick and Kevin Sullivan
Washington Post Service

KYOTO, Japan — Hoping to reach a compromise agreement at the contentious global climate conference, the United States and the meeting's chairman offered separate proposals Tuesday to reach a treaty to combat global warming.

With only hours remaining to reach agreement among 159 countries, officials planned to negotiate through the night Tuesday to resolve an array of issues. Although the new proposals brought the American, European and Japanese positions closer, vast differences remained on key issues that could still send delegates home Wednesday without agreement.

[Worried that the meeting might collapse at the last moment, Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan called Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany, Prime Minister Romano Prodi of Italy and Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain, asking them to persuade the European Union delegates to show "flexibility," Reuters reported.

[A White House spokesman said that Mr. Hashimoto also called President Bill Clinton and that both men were "in sync" on issues at the meeting.]

The U.S. proposal offered to cut emissions of the "greenhouse gases" that cause global warming further than President Clinton's original call to reduce emissions to their 1990 levels by 2012. Details were not made public as negotiations continued in private, but officials hinted that the reductions would be 2 to 5 percent deeper than the original offer.

Raul Estrada-Oyuela of Argentina, the

See CLIMATE, Page 5

'New Britain' – A Work in Progress

By Dan Balz
Washington Post Service

LONDON — When advisers to Prime Minister Tony Blair began planning for the recent British-French summit meeting, they wanted the event to reflect not their tradition-bound country of the past, but the best of what they call "New Britain" — young, stylish and informal.

For the luncheon, they approached a rising young chef from Cambridge named Anton Escalera. He was flattered by the invitation, but there was an unexpected catch.

"I was asked if it would be possible to change my name to Tony for the day," he said. Somehow, the name Anton sounded too stuffy, too Continental, for the meeting's planners, although they backed down quickly when the chef resisted.

The request seemed a perfect metaphor for those skeptical of the rebranding of Britain under way here, raising the question of whether the "Cool Britannia" of the late 1990s is anything more than public relations hype, superficial labeling and cosmetic change.

Almost everywhere you look, there are signs of change. From culture to cuisine to music to politics, this is a country moving out of the past and into the present. Some of it is faddish and no doubt transitory, but when analysts widen their view, they see a country in the midst of a longer-term transition.

Britain is evolving from a nation encumbered by its proud but distant past to one that is more dynamic, more forward looking, more eager to embrace change. It is a shift of potentially enormous significance, but it remains a work in progress.

"New Britain is a single, neat slogan chasing a more illusive bundle of changes — many of them real," said Peter Clarke of Cambridge University, author of a history of 20th-century Britain entitled "Hope and Glory."

Some experts say the changes represent a restoration of confidence after a half-century of decline. Britain, they say, has come to terms with its new status as a diminished world power and is ready to push forward again. Others, such as Gareth Stedman Jones, a Cambridge historian, argue that the evolution represents a further "constriction of the powers of the state" and therefore is part of "the continuing story of British decline."

Whichever framework proves correct, historians and cultural analysts see important changes both in the character of the country and in the relationship between the people and Britain's major institutions.

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Kieran Doherty/The Associated Press

Tony Blair greeting a Continental colleague, Prime Minister Jean-Claude Junker of Luxembourg, on Tuesday at No. 10 Downing Street.

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Italy	2,800 Lire	Spain	225 Ptas
Ivory Coast	1.250 CFA	Tunisia	1.250 Din
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.A.E.	10.00 Dh
Kuwait	700 Fils	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20

The Dollar

	Tuesday @ 4 P.M	previous close
New York		
DM	1.791	1.7897
Pound	1.6515	1.6477
Yen	129.735	130.525
FF	5.9925	5.9885

The Dow

	Tuesday close	previous close
-61.18	8049.66	8110.84

S&P 500

change	Tuesday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
-6.59	975.78	982.37

50 Injured in Train Collision in Germany

HANNOVER, Germany (Reuters)— A freight train and a regional passenger train collided head-on here Tuesday, injuring at least 50 persons, police said.

A police spokeswoman said both train drivers and a 19-year-old woman passenger were seriously hurt while others suffered light injuries.

The collision occurred on a suburban stretch of track in the district of Hannover-Anderten shortly before 5 P.M. The cause was not immediately clear.

Three of the freight wagons burst into flames after the impact, but a team of fire fighters managed to put out the blaze before it reached a fourth tank wagon containing a potentially explosive diesel fuel mixture.

The engine and the first three cars of the northbound passenger train, heading for the town of Celle, were derailed by the force of the collision and the front car was completely wrecked, the spokeswoman said.

AGENDA

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EUROPE — Page 7. *German Military Officers Punished*

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The IHT on-line www.iht.com

Point of Pride / **Or Unhealthy Obsession?**

Venezuela's Love Affair With Beauty Pageants

By Diana Jean Schemo
New York Times Service

CARACAS — They are called "Miss" here. And that is enough. Miss, as in Miss Venezuela, Miss Latin America, Miss World and — the envelope, please — Miss Universe.

Thanks to a training regimen that involves hours of practice a day in walking, speaking, stretching and starving, Venezuela has become the beauty queen factory of the world.

In certain cultures, formal beauty contests are the kind of event that people look down on as sexist or foolish. The BBC is reportedly considering whether to stop broadcasting them as altogether too silly.

But here, the contests are a source of national obsession and pride. Over the last 20 years, Venezuelans have held crowns in 10 top international pageants, a record unmatched anywhere. Four of the last 18 Miss Universes were from Venezuela. Twice, women from this nation of 21 million won Miss Universe and Miss World simultaneously, in 1996 and in 1981, an unparalleled feat.

"It's not that women here are more beautiful," said Gisselle Reyes, a former beauty queen who runs a modeling agency here, "it's that we prepare harder for it." Miss Reyes is part of the team that trains the future Misses for competition.

In the month before the Miss Venezuela pageant in September, newspapers feature long interviews with each of the 29 contestants.

Much in the way Brazilians follow soccer, Venezuelans analyze the relative merits and shortcomings of the contestants as the big night approaches. And everybody knows the Venezuelan version of that American anthem to cotton-candy dreams, "There She Is":

On a night as beautiful as this,
Any one of us could win,
Be crowned Miss Venezuela,
And finally see our dreams come true.

So sang, for instance, Elisabetta Balasso, director of the National Gallery of Art's education department. Miss Balasso rues the contest's importance in Venezuela, which intensifies as the pageant approaches until it is inescapable. "It's in the air," she said. "The bottom line, though, is it's a chance to make it that the women would never have."

The proof of that is Irene Saez, who has gone from top contender on the runway to top contender in presidential elections next year. A former Miss Universe who is mayor of Chacao, a district in Caracas, Miss Saez rose without the otherwise crucial support of traditional parties.

Now, the parties are courting her to represent them in presidential elections, despite her scant political experience. She said that becoming a beauty queen in Venezuela 16 years ago singled her out forever after, causing her accomplishments, her travels, her elections and her romances to be closely followed in the news. "In Venezuela," Miss Saez said, "beauty contests are not a race, they're a religion."

Andrew Leighton/The New York Times

Irene Saez, a former Miss Universe, is a contender for president of Venezuela. Over the last 20 years, Venezuelan women have won 10 top international pageants.

Some here consider her success a troubling sign of their country's tendency to settle for appearance rather than substance. "What people vote for is the image of a beautiful woman," said Agustin Blanco, a professor of history at the Catholic University of Venezuela, "not a woman who is judged on her intelligence, her capacity and accomplishment."

Indeed, there is not much interest in trading in the macho ideal of women as super-femme flirts for the more realistic picture of women as workers, often holding families together on their own. Inquiries as to whether there is a feminist movement in town invariably prompt men and women alike to point out what is wrong with feminism — even though the answer is no, there is no such movement here.

This dislocation produces a strange city, with an aura of sexuality bordering on the absurd. Young women totter to office jobs on suspenseful heels — last year, the style was clear plastic, like glass slippers, over polished toenails — and wear open-back or short dresses.

Classified ads specify *buena aparencia*, meaning that only good-looking women need apply.

The biggest dose of reality may have come, not surprisingly, from a Miss. After becoming Miss Universe 1996, Alicia Machado immediately put on 19 pounds. She told an unforgiving local press essentially to get a grip, saying she had starved to win the title. The night she won, she dreamed only of eating normally.

In a country where poverty is estimated to afflict 70 percent to 80 percent of the population, the television station that broadcasts the Miss Venezuela pageant pays all the costs of training, grooming and dressing the women selected from hundreds to compete for the titles of Miss Venezuela and Miss Universe, Miss Reyes said. Their training costs an average of $60,000, and takes six months of 16-hour workdays.

The women learn how to apply makeup and style their hair, and most need to lose at least 10 pounds to look good on camera. Teeth are straightened, noses are narrowed, hair is grown past shoulder length, and the silicone flows.

Maria Kallay, manager of the Miss Venezuela Organization, said that preparing for the Miss Venezuela contest was a full-time job, and that contestants took leaves of absence from work or school to train. Anybody not willing to put in the time, she said, cannot compete.

Marena Bencomo, last year's Miss Venezuela and first runner-up for Miss Universe, said that though the training had been intense, it had made her more independent, especially as her parents had stayed home in provincial Valencia. Winning gave her the kind of advantage that usually comes from having a powerful politician for a father. Now a third-year anthropology student, she also has her own weekly television program on entertainment news.

"It's being known for what you do and who you are," Miss Bencomo said, "not because you're so-and-so's daughter or niece."

U.S. Agency Details Picture of TWA Crash

By Matthew L. Wald
New York Times Service

BALTIMORE — The National Transportation Safety Board, in its first thorough presentation of the last moments of TWA Flight 800, has displayed its own video animation and painted a picture with significantly different details from the one laid out by the CIA last month.

The safety board's version, which came Monday on the first day of a week of hearings, also provided more detail into why the board does not believe a missile or bomb was involved in the crash of the Boeing 747 off the south shore of Long Island last year, killing all 230 people on board.

In the safety board's simulation — without the music or professional announcer of the CIA video — the explosion in the center fuel tank took less than a second to spew debris from the plane's belly, including part of the keel beam, which provides much of the support for the fuselage.

Then the breakup of the plane slowed or stopped, but the nose began to droop and the sides compressed until the area in front of the wings broke off, and began an almost leisurely flutter to the water, taking about 90 seconds.

The wings and everything behind them, however, continued for more than two miles and climbed from about 13,700 feet (4,200 meters) to perhaps 15,000 feet, before twisting north and south and plunging to the surface, with the left wing breaking off shortly before impact, creating a fireball.

The CIA's version, in contrast, portrayed the wings and fuselage as climbing to 17,000 feet, trailing flaming fuel in a way that convinced witnesses on the south shore of Long Island that they were seeing a missile.

Where the Central Intelligence Agency had the major fragment of the plane veering to the north, the safety board had it twist first north, toward the beach, and then south. The first turn would have given observers the perspective that the plane was continuing to climb, board experts testified Monday.

James Hall, chairman of the safety board, said it was now the largest investigation into any transportation accident in U.S. history.

The engineers, freed from months of official silence caused in part by their cooperation in the criminal investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, laid out their analysis in excruciating detail, their first turn to explain why they did not think there was a bomb or missile.

The investigators integrated information from eight radar sites around the northeastern United States, radio transmissions from the Paris-bound jet itself, "witness marks" showing where interior parts of the plane crashed into each other, analyses of the trajectory that each part of the plane would be expected to take as the Boeing 747 blew apart, locations of the wreckage on the ocean floor, and analyses of thousands of fractures. They built a case for explosion of the center fuel tank from causes internal to the plane, although just what causes those were is not yet clear.

"Like every other investigator up there, I spent hours looking for every single piece that could point to a cause," said Richard Bott, a missile expert from the U.S. Navy's base at China Lake, California, who said he had examined dozens of crashed warplanes.

But he could not find anything that looked like missile damage.

"There's no large areas of missing structure on the aircraft that could contain all the damage from a warhead," he said. Nor was there any place where a "dud missile" could have hit the plane, he added, and the possibility of a stray fragment from a missile self-destructing and penetrating the skin with enough energy to ignite the tank was "sheer improbability piled upon improbability."

The safety board's chairman said it was now the largest investigation into any transportation accident in U.S. history.

James Wildey 2d, senior metallurgist at the safety board, described spending weeks examining the wreckage of the center section of the plane that was reconstructed in a hangar in Calverton, New York. He said it was "some of the most examined metal in the world."

The board showed two animated videos of the last moments of the plane, which differed in some key respects from the one produced by the CIA and released by the FBI two weeks ago. But they still showed a decapitated airplane coming apart, the cockpit and first class section tumbling to the water and the section from the wings to the tail gaining altitude and then plummeting into the sea.

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TRAVEL UPDATE

8 Airlines Protest Decree

ROME (Bloomberg) — Eight European airlines using Milan's Linate Airport have filed a complaint with the European Union, seeking reversal of a decree that would shift most flights to Malpensa Airport — more distant from the city center — by October 1998.

The airlines — British Airways, Iberia Air Lines, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Lufthansa German Airlines, Olympic Airways, Sabena Belgian World Airlines, Scandinavian Airlines System and TAP Air Portugal — say the decree is discriminatory.

The decree would permit only Alitalia, the Italian line, to continue using Linate, for Milan-Rome routes. The airlines believe it distorts competition "by giving Alitalia a unique market position," said Marco Bencincasa, British Airways spokesman in Milan. The aim is to lighten traffic at Linate, but Mr. Benincasa said that Malpensa and access to it will not be ready to support such passenger flow in late 1998.

Eurotunnel PLC described November 1997 as a good month despite the French trucking strike. It carried 239,248 personal vehicles on its tourist shuttle and 7,890 buses. Eurostar trains carried 459,312 passengers, freight shuttle was 45,225 trucks and rail freight was 291,381 metric tons. *(AFX)*

A central aspect of New York City public transit would change under a plan to introduce monthly, weekly and daily unlimited travel passes — at $63 a month, $17 a week or $4 a day, with half-price passes for people over 65 and a fare cut on express buses to Manhattan from $4 to $3. *(NYT)*

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Italy Plans Night Shows at Pompeii

The Associated Press

ROME — The Culture Ministry said Tuesday it would present a plan to stage a light and music show in Pompeii from Easter to November for the next four years.

Floodlights will illuminate 2,000-year-old homes, and melodies reminiscent of Roman times will play when the ancient Roman town opens for nightly visits. Tourists visiting at night will walk along a path, stopping at eight stations where various scenes of Pompeii's history will be recreated — including the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D.

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	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Algarve	19/66	12/53 pc	19/66	13/55 pc
Amsterdam	13/55	9/48 r	10/50	2/35 r
Ankara	1/34	-7/20 pc	3/37	-6/22 c
Athens	11/52	7/44 pc	13/55	10/50 c
Barcelona	14/57	12/53 c	19/66	12/53 c
Belgrade	6/43	1/34 c	9/48	7/44 c
Berlin	8/46	6/46 r	11/52	4/39 r
Brussels	12/53	11/52 r	11/52	3/37 r
Budapest	4/39	4/39 sn	10/50	7/44 r
Copenhagen	8/46	6/43 sh	7/44	5/41 r
Costa Del Sol	20/68	11/52 pc	21/70	12/53 pc
Dublin	13/55	9/46 sh	9/48	2/35 pc
Edinburgh	9/48	8/46 r	9/48	3/37 r
Florence	12/53	7/44 pc	17/62	12/53 sh
Frankfurt	7/44	6/43 r	9/48	4/39 r
Geneva	7/44	6/43 r	10/50	4/39 r
Helsinki	3/37	-1/31 sh	1/34	-2/29 sn
Istanbul	6/43	2/35 pc	8/46	6/43 pc
Kiev	-3/27	-4/25 c	-1/31	-2/29 sn
Las Palmas	23/73	18/64 s	24/75	19/66 s
Lisbon	17/62	13/55 pc	17/62	13/55 c
London	14/57	11/52 pc	12/53	3/37 c
Madrid	14/57	6/43 c	13/55	8/46 sh
Mallorca	17/62	10/50 pc	21/70	12/53 pc
Milan	8/46	6/43 pc	12/53	7/44 sh
Moscow	-3/27	-7/20 c	-4/25	-4/25 sn
Munich	6/43	5/41 sh	11/52	2/35 sh
Nice	16/59	13/55 c	19/66	13/55 c
Oslo	2/35	-1/31 sn	2/35	-1/31 sn
Paris	12/53	11/52 r	11/52	2/35 sh
Prague	4/39	3/37 r	11/52	2/35 r
Reykjavik	2/35	-4/25 c	2/35	-1/31 sn
Riga	4/39	1/34 c	2/35	-1/31 sn
Rome	14/57	6/43 pc	15/59	12/53 r
St. Petersburg	1/34	-1/31 sn	-1/31	-4/25 sn
Stockholm	4/39	2/35 sh	4/39	-1/31 sn
Strasbourg	8/46	6/46 r	12/53	4/39 sh
Tallinn	4/39	1/34 sh	2/35	-1/31 sn
Tbilisi	6/43	-4/25 r	6/41	-1/31 c
Venice	9/46	6/43 pc	13/55	7/44 sh
Vienna	7/44	5/41 c	10/50	4/39 r
Warsaw	4/39	3/37 sh	8/46	4/39 r
Zurich	7/44	7/44 r	9/48	5/37 r

Middle East

Abu Dhabi	28/82	17/62 pc	27/80	14/57 pc
Beirut	17/62	12/53 c	16/61	11/52 sh
Cairo	16/61	10/50 pc	17/62	9/48 pc
Damascus	13/55	5/41 s	13/55	5/41 sh
Jerusalem	11/52	6/43 sh	11/52	5/41 c
Luxor	20/68	3/37 s	22/71	4/39 s
Riyadh	26/79	8/46 s	22/71	8/46 s

Africa

Algiers	17/62	8/46 pc	21/70	12/53 pc
Cape Town	24/75	14/57 s	28/82	16/64 pc
Casablanca	21/70	11/52 s	21/70	12/53 s
Harare	27/80	8/46 s	28/82	9/48 s
Lagos	31/88	23/73 pc	31/88	23/73 pc
Nairobi	26/79	13/55 pc	27/80	13/55 pc
Tunis	15/59	7/44 c	17/62	11/52 pc

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Jetstream — Unseasonably Cold — Unseasonably Mild — Heavy Rain — Heavy Snow

North America
Dry over most of the country Thursday through Saturday. Lots of sunshine in the West with pleasant afternoons and quite warm for the time of year. Dry and cold in the Plains and Midwest. Cold with some snow from the Great Lakes to New England; showers near the East Coast.

Europe
Windy and mild with rain in London and Paris Thursday, then dry with some sun Friday and Saturday. Soaking rain is in store from Germany and Poland on south to the northern foothills of the Alps. Dry and mild with lots of sun in Spain. Italy will have some rain Friday and Saturday.

Asia
Cold and dry in Beijing Thursday, then milder with showers possible by Saturday. Dry and chilly in Tokyo, but milder again by Saturday. Cool with soaking rain over southeastern China from Taiwan to Hong Kong Thursday and Friday, then milder by Saturday as the rain shifts farther north.

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, W-Weather.

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Asia

	Today High	Today Low	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Almaty	8/46	-1/31 pc	9/48	2/35 c
Bali	33/91	22/71 pc	34/93	23/71 pc
Bangkok	29/82	19/66 pc	29/82	20/68 pc
Beijing	-1/31	-12/11 pc	-1/31	-7/20 s
Bombay	29/84	14/57 s	29/82	16/61 s
Calcutta	23/73	14/57 r	24/75	13/55 s
Chiang Mai	23/73	13/55 r	24/75	14/57 pc
Colombo	29/84	23/73 r	29/84	23/73 r
Hanoi	16/61	11/52 pc	17/62	14/57 pc
Ho Chi Minh	32/89	21/70 c	31/88	23/73 sh
Hong Kong	18/61	13/55 pc	16/61	15/59 c
Islamabad	23/73	5/41 s	22/71	7/44 pc
Jakarta	30/86	23/73 r	30/86	23/73 pc
Karachi	29/84	13/55 s	28/82	13/55 pc
K. Lumpur	31/88	23/73 r	29/84	24/75 t
K. Kinabalu	29/82	23/73 sh	28/82	23/73 sh
Manila	29/84	21/70 sh	29/84	21/70 c
New Delhi	18/64	10/50 pc	20/68	7/44 pc
Phnom Penh	29/84	21/70 c	29/84	22/71 c
Phuket	29/82	19/66 pc	29/82	20/68 pc
Rangoon	29/84	17/62 pc	29/84	18/64 pc
Seoul	-9/18	-8/18 pc	-9/22	-1/30 pc
Shanghai	4/39	-4/25 s	6/43	-1/31 s
Singapore	27/80	24/75 t	28/82	23/73 t
Taipei	16/61	12/53 sh	15/59	13/55 sh
Tokyo	10/50	2/35 s	9/48	6/46 s
Vientiane	26/79	11/52 pc	26/77	13/55 pc

North America

Anchorage	-3/27	-8/18 sn	-1/31	-8/18 sn
Atlanta	12/53	3/37 pc	8/46	2/35 pc
Boston	7/44	3/37 r	6/43	-3/27 sn
Chicago	1/34	-3/27 sn	0/32	-7/20 pc
Dallas	7/44	-2/29 c	4/39	-5/27 pc
Denver	0/32	-8/18 sf	-2/29	-12/11 pc
Detroit	1/34	-2/29 sn	2/35	-5/22 c
Honolulu	25/77	17/62 s	26/79	18/64 pc
Houston	14/57	3/37 pc	8/46	-2/29 pc
Los Angeles	19/66	7/44 s	22/71	4/39 s
Miami	28/82	19/66 pc	27/80	20/68 pc
Minneapolis	-3/27	-10/15 c	-3/27	-8/18 pc
Montreal	1/34	-7/20 c	2/35	-10/15 sn
Nassau	29/84	23/73 pc	28/82	22/71 pc
New York	6/43	2/35 r	6/43	1/34 c
Orlando	27/80	15/59 t	24/75	14/57 c
Phoenix	14/57	1/34 s	13/55	2/35 s
San Fran.	14/57	6/43 s	14/57	6/43 pc
Seattle	9/48	2/35 r	10/50	5/41 c
Toronto	3/37	-3/27 sn	2/35	-7/20 pc
Vancouver	8/48	7/44 r	12/53	6/43 pc
Washington	9/48	3/37 r	9/48	0/32 c

Latin America

Buenos Aires	32/89	21/70 pc	28/82	19/66 r
Caracas	26/82	18/64 s	27/80	20/68 pc
Lima	26/79	20/68 pc	26/79	20/68 c
Mexico City	24/75	6/43 s	17/62	5/41 sh
Rio deJaneiro	28/79	19/64 pc	25/77	21/70 pc
Santiago	30/86	11/52 pc	29/77	7/44 pc

Oceania

Auckland	19/66	12/53 pc	18/64	10/50 s
Sydney	21/70	12/53 pc	22/71	17/62 s

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MALAYSIA	RM	182	101	44%
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NORWAY	NOK	832	390	53%
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THE AMERICAS

Reno Stands Firm Under House Questioning

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Janet Reno faced pointed questioning Tuesday from Republicans on a House committee investigating campaign fund-raising, but stoutly defended her decision not to seek an independent counsel to investigate President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore.

Before a packed hearing room, she again refused to produce a memorandum from the FBI director, Louis Freeh, in which he reportedly urged her to seek an independent counsel.

Ms. Reno told the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee that her relationship with Mr. Freeh was "excellent."

She could face a contempt-of-Congress citation for defying the committee subpoena for the memo, although the panel's chairman, Representative Dan Burton, Republican of Indiana and long a harsh critic of hers, did not pursue the question.

The political divide running through the panel, and through much of the campaign fund-raising debate, was on display throughout the charged hearing.

Mr. Burton, a conservative Republican, said in an opening statement that "the need for an independent counsel couldn't be more clear." Ms. Reno has shown "all the appearances of an attorney general protecting the president," Mr. Burton said.

She responded with cool intensity, saying: "I'm not ducking anything. I'm not protecting anybody. I'm trying to do the job of conducting an investigation in the right way."

Ms. Reno pledged an impartial and painstaking inquiry.

"I don't care where the facts lead, because I am going to follow them as far as and wherever they go," she said.

The ranking Democrat in attendance, Representative Tom Lantos of California, lashed back at the Republicans for what he called "cheap, petty, partisan political attacks."

He charged that Mr. Burton's opening statement was "so pregnant with inaccuracies, misstatements, innuendoes and false statements that were I to respond to all of them we would be here till midnight."

The investigation by the Republican-controlled committee, Mr. Lantos said, had been "the most lopsided and partisan investigation in American history."

For his part, Mr. Burton dwelled on the differences between Ms. Reno and Mr. Freeh over naming an independent counsel. She announced Dec. 2 that she had found no sufficient grounds to seek such a counsel over allegations that President Clinton and Mr. Gore made illegal fund-raising phone calls.

The Indiana representative said that this was the first time in memory that an attorney general and an FBI director had "disagreed so publicly about such an important case" and that he wanted to know the source of the discord.

Ms. Reno said that to make public the memo from Mr. Freeh could jeopardize ongoing investigations and "chill the free exchange of ideas" between herself and those she worked with.

"It is terribly important that politics not be a part of this," she said. "I don't want 'yes' people around me and I can say proudly that I haven't had 'yes' people around me."

She called Mr. Freeh "one of the most dedicated public servants I know" and "the kind of director of the FBI I want."

"We have a strong, and very amicable working relationship," she continued, "that I don't think anybody's going to bust up."

Mr. Burton and the panel's Democrats jousted over what Mr. Lantos implied was a Republican attempt to do just that.

Mr. Lantos wanted Ms. Reno and Mr. Freeh to appear side-by-side, offering testimony together, rather than having Mr. Freeh follow her later in the day. But Mr. Burton and the Republicans narrowly prevailed in two procedural votes on the matter. Mr. Freeh sat behind Ms. Reno, waiting to testify later.

Reports about Mr. Freeh's differences with Ms. Reno over the memo led to a tepid endorsement of the FBI director from the White House spokesman. Asked last week whether Mr. Freeh had Mr. Clinton's confidence, the spokesman, Michael McCurry, replied that "the president has great confidence that Louis Freeh is leading that agency as best he can."

Mr. Burton called Mr. McCurry's comments "disgraceful" and demanded an apology.

He also asked whether Ms. Reno was not troubled by yet another controversy — over the belated production by the White House of notes long sought by the committee.

The notes were taken by a White House aide, Janis Kearney, and include discussion of "money" coffees in the White House for major donors and a "political" coffee for political and community leaders.

The notes, heavily blacked out, were among those subpoenaed months ago by Congress.

Without addressing the issue of those notes, Ms. Reno said that an earlier such instance had left her "really mad."

Mr. Burton made an unexpected offer, saying he would support the appointment of an independent counsel to take over the entire fund-raising investigation, including allegations that he himself once threatened a lobbyist over fund-raising.

POLITICAL NOTES

J. Scott Applewhite/The Associated Press

Bill Lann Lee, right, applauding a speech by Representative John Lewis, Democrat of Georgia and ex-civil rights leader, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Justice Department's civil rights division.

White House Fights For Lee Nomination

WASHINGTON — The White House said Tuesday that Republicans had "gone too far" and were alienating Americans of diverse backgrounds by blocking the nomination of Bill Lann Lee for the nation's top civil rights job.

If Republicans continue to resist Mr. Lee's nomination, President Bill Clinton will put him in the job while Congress is in recess and unable to stop him, White House officials said.

But first, the administration is trying to build pressure on Republicans to allow a vote on Mr. Lee.

"I think the Republicans ought to think about what they're doing to themselves when they insist on their very narrow, hard conservative point of view as being the only legitimate view on the subject of civil rights," the White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, said. "They alienate a large number of Americans from very diverse backgrounds."

He said of the Republicans: "They've gone too far. Orrin Hatch has gone too far in insisting that his personal political philosophy ought to prevail over the president who was elected by the American people."

Mr. Hatch, a Republican senator from Utah, chairman of the Judiciary Committee and a foe of Mr. Lee's nomination, sought to discourage Mr. Clinton from making a recess appointment to become head of the Justice Department's civil rights division, warning in a letter that such a move could chill the president's relations with Congress. *(AP)*

Jones Amends Suit

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — Paula Jones is asking for less money but making more allegations about Bill Clinton in a new version of her sexual harassment lawsuit against the president.

The revised complaint, filed Monday, adds assertions that Mr. Clinton, as governor of Arkansas, gave preferential treatment to female state employees who succumbed to his sexual advances.

The changes had been expected after a judge gave Mrs. Jones permission weeks ago to alter her lawsuit.

The new version seeks $525,000 — down from $700,000 — and drops a defamation claim against Mr. Clinton's co-defendant, Danny Ferguson, an Arkansas state trooper who helped guard the former governor. *(AP)*

Quote/Unquote

Mr. McCurry, saying that Mr. Clinton is getting a Labrador retriever that will move into the White House after being housebroken: "I think he had a close encounter with the puppy and enjoyed the puppy and a bond occurred." *(AP)*

Ambassador's Body To Leave Arlington

Widow Says Controversy Prevents Husband From 'Resting in Peace'

By Terry M. Neal and Stephen Barr
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The wife of the late Ambassador M. Larry Lawrence has asked President Bill Clinton to remove her husband's body from Arlington National Cemetery because "the controversy of the past few days precludes his resting there in peace."

Shelia Davis Lawrence did not address charges that Mr. Lawrence should not be buried in the cemetery because he had lied about being in the Merchant Marine during World War II. She wrote Mr. Clinton that her husband's service as ambassador to Switzerland justified his burial there.

But she added, "There is much that I still do not understand about recent events." She said she would move her husband's body to San Diego, where it would be close to family and friends.

In his written reply, Mr. Clinton said: "It is with a deep sense of personal sadness that I received your letter this afternoon. I will of course ensure that the Department of Defense accommodates your wishes."

The controversy over Mr. Lawrence's burial grew out of heated exchanges between the White House and conservatives last month over allegations that Mr. Clinton had rewarded Democratic donors with plots at Arlington. Mr. Lawrence, who died in 1996 at his official residence in Bern, gave about $200,000 to Democrats from 1991 to 1996.

Mr. Lawrence was one of 69 individuals in the last five years who received special waivers to be buried in Arlington. Last month, White House and Army officials, citing Mr. Lawrence's wartime record, defended their decision to allow him to be interred there.

But last week, House Republican investigators said that a search of military records turned up no evidence to support Mr. Lawrence's claim that he served in the Merchant Marine or aboard the Horace Bushnell in March 1945 when it was sunk by a German torpedo while part of a convoy headed toward the Russian port of Murmansk.

Some Republicans and veterans groups in recent days raised the prospect that Mr. Lawrence's body should be removed from the cemetery, the nation's most hallowed ground for military heroes, if it were proved he fabricated his Merchant Marine background.

An army spokesman said that no bodies had been disinterred at Arlington under circumstances similar to those in Mr. Lawrence's case.

Records released Monday suggest that Mr. Lawrence was a full-time college student in Chicago during the time he claimed to be aboard the Bushnell.

Ruth Moscovitch, general counsel for the City Colleges of Chicago, said that "an individual named Maurice Lawrence, with date of birth Aug. 16, 1926," was enrolled at Wilbur Wright College from September 1944 to June 1945.

Maurice was the late ambassador's first name and the birth date matches the date that Mr. Lawrence, who was born in Chicago, provided such publications as Who's Who in American Politics. On government forms and in conversations with State Department colleagues, Mr. Lawrence claimed to have been aboard the Bushnell during the torpedo attack and said he was thrown overboard and suffered serious head injuries.

After Representative Terry Everett, Republican of Alabama, who heads a House Veterans Affairs subcommittee, questioned whether Mr. Lawrence had served in the Merchant Marine, Mr. Clinton asked the State Department to investigate the late envoy's record.

"This has our highest priority and we are conducting an extremely thorough investigation," a department spokesman, James Foley, said Monday. Mr. Foley said the investigation would be completed "as soon as possible."

State Department officials have been examining the forms Mr. Lawrence filed for his security clearance as an ambassador and for federal employment. At the time of Mr. Lawrence's nomination in 1993, investigators for the Bureau of Diplomatic Security included a notation in Mr. Lawrence's files that they had been unable to verify his Merchant Marine service.

Questions also had been raised about whether Mr. Lawrence attended and graduated from the University of Arizona, as he had claimed in some biographies.

For instance, in the 1977-78 edition of Who's Who in American Politics, Mr. Lawrence claimed to have received a bachelor of arts degree from the school in 1947. But the university is adamant in denying that he holds a degree from the school.

K.M. Cannon/The Associated Press

LET IT SNOW — Residents of South Lake Tahoe, California, digging out after a foot of snow fell.

Away From Politics

• **The space shuttle flight to Mir** scheduled for next month has been delayed by NASA, leaving the U.S. astronaut David Wolf on board the Russian outpost for at least an extra five days. Russian space officials had asked NASA to delay Endeavor's launch to allow time for additional work on Mir. Meanwhile, gouges discovered on Columbia's thermal tiles after the shuttle's return from a two-week science mission are being investigated before Endeavor is cleared for flight. *(AP)*

• ***A man wanted for hijacking*** a U.S. plane and diverting it to Cuba in 1969 has been arrested after trying to enter the United States from Canada. U.S. immigration authorities detained Felix Rolando Peterson-Coplin at Alexandria Bay, New York. *(AP)*

• **Homes and businesses in California** were dug out of mud from a torrential storm that caused $10 million in damage and at least one death. The rain was followed by snow, which made driving hazardous on some highways. *(AP)*

U.S. Pledges $500 Million for Atom-Smasher Near Geneva

By Curt Suplee
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In an unprecedented act of international scientific collaboration, the United States has pledged to provide more than $500 million in high-tech components and services for construction of a state-of-the-art atom-smasher near Geneva.

"For the first time, the U.S. government has agreed to contribute significantly to construction of an accelerator outside our borders," Energy Secretary Federico Pena said at a ceremony formalizing the agreement. "We have concluded that this is the most cost-beneficial way for the United States to participate" in expensive experiments at the forefront of high-energy physics.

"It sets an excellent precedent," said Christopher Llewellyn Smith, general director of the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, which will build the facility. Not only is the cost of such projects increasingly "beyond the means of most countries," Mr. Smith said, but the physical location of the center is "increasingly irrelevant."

The Large Hadron Collider, planned for completion in 2005 at an estimated cost of $6 billion, is designed to be the world's most powerful accelerator, generating about seven times more collision energy than the record-holder, the Tevatron at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory near Chicago. Those energy levels are expected to create conditions that will enable researchers to "uncover and unravel the deepest secrets of the physical universe," said Neal Lane, director of the National Science Foundation, including the profoundly vexing question of what process in nature causes particles to acquire mass.

Other objectives include trying to understand the "dark matter" that makes up at least 90 percent of the mass of the cosmos but has never been seen, investigating why there is so little antimatter in today's universe and studying how the four fundamental forces of nature might be unified.

The Large Hadron Collider was conceived years ago by the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, which is supported by a consortium of 19 European countries. U.S. interest in the project spiked in 1993 after Congress killed funding for a domestic next-generation accelerator, the planned Superconducting Super Collider under construction in Texas. The United States had conducted an urgent search for international partners as domestic support waned for the project — the cost of which threatened to exceed $10 billion — with only modest success.

Suddenly America found itself faced with the prospect of becoming an international partner in the Hadron collaboration (which also includes Russia, India, Canada and Japan, among others) or possibly losing the chance for important participation in cutting-edge science as well as the ability "to train the next generation of physicists," as John Gibbons, assistant to the president for science and technology, noted.

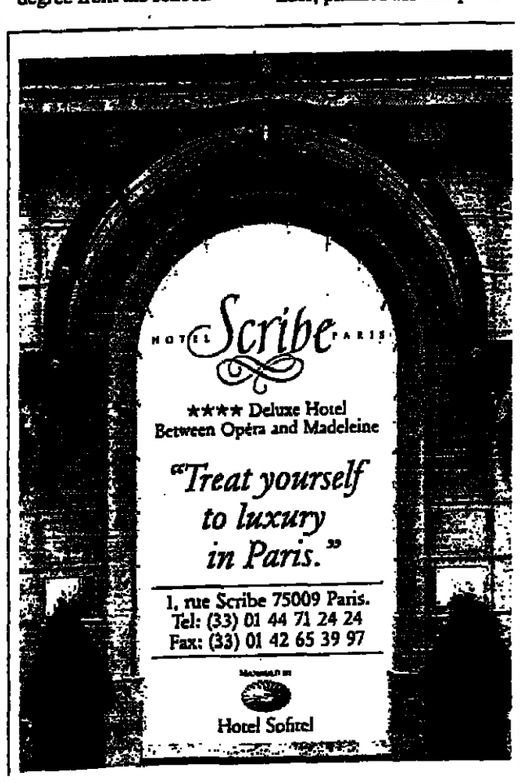
It took four years of complicated negotiations to define an appropriate role for the United States and to iron out such difficult questions as whether the United States would have to pay more if the project experienced overruns. Now "our contribution is fixed" at $531 million, Mr. Pena said.

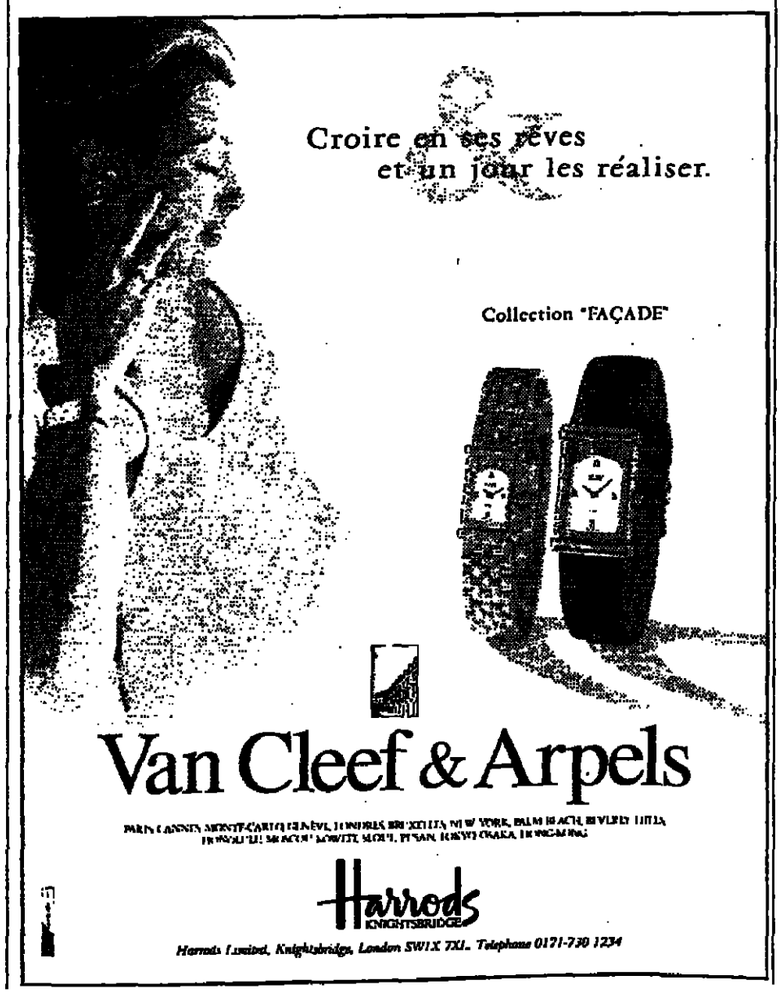
Under the terms of the new agreement, the Department of Energy will provide $200 million in equipment and materials for Hadron, which is being constructed in an existing tunnel that crosses the Swiss-French border. About half of those goods and services will come from three of the Department of Energy's labs — Brookhaven in New York, Lawrence Berkeley in California and Fermilab in Illinois — and half from American industrial companies.

The Department of Energy also will contribute approximately $250 million in components for the facility's two giant detectors, five-story-tall instruments that record the results of the particle collisions. The science foundation will provide an additional $81 million in in-kind contributions. Some 550 U.S. scientists are working at those detectors, about 20 percent of the total number.

"For about 10 percent of the total cost," Mr. Pena said Monday, the arrangement will "enable about 25 percent of the U.S. high-energy experimental physics community to take advantage" of Hadron's resources.

For its part, Mr. Smith said, the Geneva organization not only got extensive access to U.S. expertise, but enough of a financial commitment to "allow construction of much better experiments than would otherwise be possible" and to complete Hadron "three years earlier than would have been possible without those contributions."





ASIA/PACIFIC

China Chides U.S. Over Nuclear Targeting and Dissident

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — Beijing on Tuesday assailed Washington's policy of nuclear deterrence following reports that new U.S. guidelines increase the number of missiles targeting China.

"China always stands for a complete prohibition and total destruction of nuclear weapons," the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Tang Guoqiang, said.

"The U.S. has a large arsenal of nuclear weapons. It stubbornly sticks to its policy of nuclear deterrence," he said. "This policy cannot serve world peace and stability."

Mr. Tang also criticized President Bill Clinton's meeting with the dissident Wei Jingsheng at the White House.

"This act of the U.S. side is totally wrong," he said of the meeting Monday.

"The Chinese side expresses its strong indignation and firm opposition to the meeting," Mr. Tang said.

The 35-minute talks took place three weeks after Mr. Wei, 47, was released from a Chinese jail on medical parole and forced into exile in the United States.

The Washington Post and The New York Times said in weekend reports that the United States would adopt new secret guidelines that would redirect U.S. nuclear weapons to target rogue states such as Libya, Iran, Iraq and Syria.

According to the Post, the language of the new guidelines would also allow strategic planners to develop a broader list of targets in China.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said he was unaware of the development, but he lambasted the long-standing U.S. policy of using nuclear might to deter other countries from attempting a nuclear attack.

"We urge in the strongest terms that the U.S. end this policy," Mr. Tang said.

China was removed from U.S. strategic war plans in the mid-1980s when Washington and Beijing were normalizing relations, said Bruce Blair, an arms control expert at the Brooking Institution.

"There are hundreds of targets in China that remain in the war planners' portfolio, but we took them out of the plan in the early '80s," Mr. Blair said of Washington's policy.

"Currently we're not in a position to press the button and attack China," he said. "It would take some effort to reprogram forces in the field to attack China."

Meanwhile, Mr. Wei described his meeting with Mr. Clinton and said that he had warned the president not to be "deceived" by Beijing.

"I told him about some of my experiences in dealing with the Chinese Communists," Mr. Wei said, "and I expressed the hope that in dealing with the Chinese Communists, the United States would not be deceived. My personal feeling is that President Clinton is not someone who is easily deceived."

When dealing with the Beijing government, Mr. Wei said he told Mr. Clinton, "do not pay before the goods are delivered."

"In the West, you go by credibility, by the rule of law, by rules and regulation," Mr. Wei said, speaking through an interpreter. "That is never the case with the Chinese Communists. They can make any promises, and they can go back on any promises. It is like a sports match, where one side must obey all the rules and the other side doesn't have to. It isn't a very fair game."

J. Scott Applewhite/The Associated Press

Wei Jingsheng in Washington.

But at the news briefing in Beijing, Mr. Tang said: "Wei Jingsheng is a criminal who attempted to overthrow the Chinese government and endanger the state. Whatever he says to attack the Chinese government and the Chinese people is no surprise and is not worth rebutting.

"We are opposed to U.S. officials meeting Wei Jingsheng, opposed to the making use of Wei Jingsheng for anti-Chinese activities. The U.S. government clearly knows the Chinese government's position."

Mr. Wei, who favors greater international pressure on Beijing to advance human rights and democracy, said he and Mr. Clinton had vowed to maintain "close contact."

In an apparent effort to limit possible harm to improving Chinese-American ties, the White House did not immediately put out its own account of the session.

Instead of inviting the press to take pictures of the meeting, presidential aides released a snapshot of their own.

The meeting took place outside the Oval Office, Mr. Wei's associates said, adding that Mr. Clinton was accompanied at the session by Samuel Berger, his national security adviser. *(AFP, Reuters, NYT)*

44 Years After the Truce, Korean Peace Talks Open in Geneva

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

GENEVA — More than 44 years after the fighting stopped, the United States and the three other main combatants in the Korean War opened talks Tuesday to replace the truce agreement with a peace treaty.

Establishing a full, formal peace on the Korean Peninsula would play a major role in bringing world stability, the host Swiss government said in welcoming the North and South Korean, Chinese and U.S. delegations.

"We hope this process will result in the progressive introduction of confidence-building measures on the Korean Peninsula, with the ultimate aim of ending the 'no war-no peace' situation which has prevailed since the signing of the armistice in 1953," said Jakob Kellenberger, the Swiss state secretary.

No one is expecting the parties to rush to a treaty, and some analysts are predicting that the talks will last for years. But North Korea's agreement last month to join the talks to replace the armistice was seen as a breakthrough.

The Koreans sat at long, white tables opposite each other in the headquarters of the European Free Trade Association.

The United States and China were at tables on the other two sides of the square.

Tang Jiaxuan, Chinese deputy foreign minister, urged North and South Korea gradually to improve relations and build trust, but he said, that better U.S.-North Korean relations also were essential.

"The ship of the four-party talks has now set sail," Mr. Tang said. "We know for sure that the future course will still be long and difficult. Nevertheless, we have already struck a good beginning."

The head of the South Korean delegation, Seoul's ambassador to France, Lee See Young, said: "South Korea will show the maximum flexibility to bring the talks to a successful end."

The Korean War began when more than 60,000 North Korean troops, armed by the Soviet Union, invaded the South on July 25, 1950.

U.S. troops were ordered in two days later as part of a UN force, which advanced across North Korea in the coming months until the Chinese drove them back.

The ultimate goal of the talks is the peaceful reunification of the two countries, which have been divided since the end of World War II, but each of the parties is allowed to bring its special concerns to the talks.

The United States, for example, has been pressing the North Koreans for more information on more than 8,000 American servicemen still missing in action in the war.

U.S. officials have said they particularly want to see whether they can learn anything about the MIAs by questioning four American soldiers who deserted their units in South Korea in the 1960s and are believed to be living in North Korea.

North Korea has rebuffed past U.S. requests for the interviews, but it has returned the remains of 209 American MIAs.

As part of the low-key approach, none of the sides formally briefed reporters before the talks. But the lack of any meetings scheduled beyond the first two days indicated the first talks concerned when the parties would meet again.

The agenda is loose enough to allow each side to present its concerns, officials have said.

The United States and China will serve as mediators, and each of the four delegations will take turns leading the talks.

At the helm of the first, two-day session was Stanley Roth, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian affairs.

The talks became possible last month when the North Koreans dropped their insistence on a U.S. troop withdrawal from South Korea as an agenda item for the negotiations.

Although it is not on the agenda, Pyongyang is nonetheless expected to raise the issue.

South Korea and the United States likewise are concerned about long-range North Korean missiles and suspected chemical and biological weapons.

A U.S. official briefing reporters in Washington said that China, one of Pyongyang's few close friends, at first seemed wary about the proposal for the talks but has been more supportive lately, seeing them as a force for stability in northeast Asia.

As the talks opened, rancorous words were still being exchanged between Pyongyang and Seoul.

South Korea's Agency for National Security Planning asserted Tuesday that two high school students missing since 1977 had been abducted by the North and were alive in Pyongyang. The two were helping to train North Korean spies being sent south, it said.

The official North Korean press agency, KCNA, assailed a decision by Seoul to allow South Koreans who are building two nuclear reactors in the North to vote by absentee ballot in upcoming presidential elections.

Earlier Tuesday, in a commentary carried by KCNA, Pyongyang said that peace could never be ensured while 37,000 American troops remained in South Korea. *(AP, Reuters)*

BRIEFLY

Burma and Thailand Agree To Screen Refugees at Border

BANGKOK — Thailand and Burma agreed Tuesday to establish a panel to screen about 100,000 refugees along their common border to determine whether they were fleeing persecution or merely seeking work.

Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan and his Burmese counterpart, Ohn Gyaw, decided to form a subcommittee acting under a commission the countries created to discuss disputes in relations, which are often prickly along the long border.

Mr. Surin estimated that Thailand was sheltering 98,000 people along the rugged border with Burma. Most have fled decades of fighting between the Burmese Army and ethnic rebels.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees says that no one who has fled for noneconomic reasons should be sent back as long as a risk of persecution exists.

On several occasions this year, the Thai Army, which polices the frontier, forced people back into Burma as long as there was no fighting in the immediate area, drawing international protests. *(AP)*

Fatal Fire Puzzles Jakarta Police

JAKARTA — After questioning 17 people Tuesday, the police were unable to learn the cause of a fire that killed 15 people in a new office tower.

The chief of the Central Jakarta Police, Lieutenant Colonel Iman Haryatna, said none of the 17, who included witnesses and workers of the construction company, were detained.

Fire fighters were conducting a separate investigation to find out whether sparks from a welding torch started the blaze Monday in the office block on Jakarta's main street.

Earlier speculation was that the fire, which gutted the three top floors of the 25-story Bank Indonesia tower, might have been caused by an electrical fault. *(AP)*

Chinese Workers Protest Layoffs

BEIJING — About 400 laid-off textile workers in Hefei, capital of the central province of Anhui, staged a demonstration to demand new jobs, a local official said Tuesday.

Workers from the Anhui No. 1 and No. 2 Textile Plants had staged a sit-in Monday outside provincial government offices to protest the loss of their jobs because of a merger of the two plants, a Hefei city official said by telephone.

The protest was the latest incident of labor unrest amid China's plan to streamline state-run industries.

The demonstrators had peacefully dispersed after government officials met with workers and pledged to help find a solution to their problem, the official said. *(Reuters)*

For the Record

At least four Sri Lankans were killed and 28 were wounded when suspected Tamil Tiger rebels lobbed a grenade into a crowded public market in the eastern city of Batticaloa on Tuesday, the police said. They said the dead were all civilians. *(Reuters)*

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Personals

O HOLY ST JUDE, apostle and martyr of great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in times of need. To you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg you, to whom God has given such great power, to come to my assistance. Help me in my present urgent petition. In return, I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. St Jude, pray for me and all who invoke your aid. Humbly in need of your intercession. Amen. Thank you for answering my prayers. Anon.

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ZONE III - F :
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SCSP: 1,848 SCSP: 1,898

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INTERNATIONAL

CLIMATE: *2 Compromises on Global Warming Are Under Study*

Continued from Page 1

conference chairman, offered a proposal that called for varying emissions cuts, including 8 percent for European countries and 5 percent for the United States.

As the agents of compromise worked into the night to find acceptable middle ground, advocates on both sides of the global warming issue complained that the new proposals were either too tough or too weak.

"This is totally immoral and the people who negotiated it should be ashamed of themselves," said Tony Juniper of Friends of the Earth, referring to both proposals.

On the other side, the criticism was just as sharp. "This is not a good thing for the United States; it will cost even more jobs and do more economic harm," said Constance Holmes, who will soon take over as chairman of the Global Climate Coalition, a group of U.S. industries that has spent millions of dollars to prevent a legally binding treaty on global warming.

Emotions in the Kyoto conference hall were high as weary, frustrated delegates entered the final phase of a 10-day meeting that has not recorded breakthroughs.

"These discussions have yielded some progress, but we still have far to go," said Stuart Eizenstat, undersecretary of state and head of the U.S. delegation. "And we do not sense the urgency on the part of many countries that is necessary, given the lateness of the hour."

Mr. Eizenstat unveiled Tuesday a proposal to establish an "umbrella group" of developed countries outside Western Europe. He said that the alliance — which would include the United States, Canada, Australia and Russia among others — would collaborate on a strategy for meeting their obligations to cut greenhouse gases. The 15 members of the European Union have a similar arrangement.

The umbrella group would set up an emission trading system among its members, so that countries that exceed their pollution limits could purchase "credits" from countries that pollute less. The major supplier of credits would probably be Russia, which is polluting far less than it did in 1990 because many of its Soviet-era factories are now closed.

Environmentalists generally opposed the plan, fearing that it would allow rich countries to buy their way into compliance rather than enforce unpopular emissions cuts.

The plan unveiled by the chairman, Mr. Estrada, was at least a partial victory for the U.S. side since it contained a number of proposals favored by the White House. Although its targets and timetables for cutting pollution were more ambitious than the Americans initially wanted, it incorporated many of Washington's views on flexibility and market-based mechanisms designed to ease the pain for businesses and consumers.

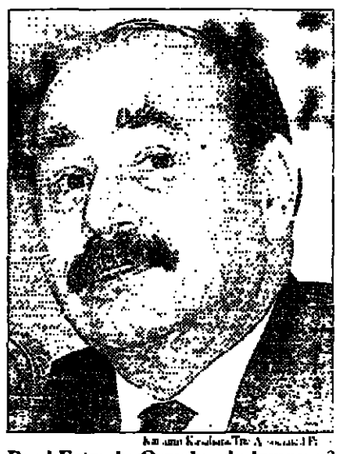
Most developed countries, including the United States, would end up cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 5 percent below 1990 levels by 2010. While the Clinton administration sought to stabilize emissions at 1990 levels by 2012, the Europeans favored a 15 percent reduction below 1990 levels by 2015.

Mr. Estrada's plan called for European countries to take on slightly tougher targets, while a few other countries would be allowed to increase emissions, reflecting special economic circumstances.

Many issues remained in flux, including the critical question of how or whether developing countries would be asked to participate in a global climate treaty. Mr. Estrada's plan also did not include provisions for penalties for countries that fail to comply.

The stakes at the conference are high. Environmentalists say global warming threatens to damage the Earth's climate irrevocably, causing flooding, severe storms, increases in temperature and rising sea levels that could wipe out countries.

Industry representatives, and their allies in the U.S. Congress, say that there is no scientific proof that global warming exists, despite a consensus that it does that was reached by a UN panel of 2,500 scientists. These foes of a treaty say that cuts in emissions of greenhouse gases would devastate the global economy and cause huge increases in energy costs and in job losses.



Raul Estrada-Oyuela, chairman of the conference on climate change, offering his compromise Tuesday.

Mr. Eizenstat, echoing what Vice President Al Gore said during his one-day visit to Kyoto on Monday, called for "meaningful participation by key developing countries."

But whether the 130-plus developing nations participate and what shape that participation might take are still up in the air.

KOREA: *A Request for Pledged Funds*

Continued from Page 1

tempt to make the contribution more politically palatable in the United States, said there was a chance that the American money would never be needed.

Mr. Lim, who holds the title of deputy prime minister, said he had not asked Washington or Tokyo directly yet to speed up their contributions, and he did not say how much money he wanted.

The IMF has already given South Korea $5.5 billion, with another $3.5 billion due this month and $2 billion in January. The Asian Development Bank will give $2 billion this month, and the World Bank is expected to chip in its first $2 billion. The money, which was pledged to reassure foreign investors and give Seoul the means to defend the won, is given in stages, to ensure that South Korea carries out reforms.

One of Mr. Lim's motives for making the request public in an interview could be political — a desire to see Washington and Tokyo actually contribute money, "if not, they are just servicing by words," he said.

Mr. Lim, who became finance minister Nov. 19 and led Seoul's negotiations with the IMF, said that Washington helped formulate the rescue plan, which requires South Korea to vastly reform its financial structure and open its markets. That has bred resentment here against the United States and Japan.

"They are advising on policies and not really putting their money in at all," he said. "What will the Korean public's response be? You can imagine."

Mr. Lim, 53, also said the United States and Japan should contribute because the falling won was making South Korean products more competitive against Japanese and American ones.

The minister spoke as the currency plunged by its maximum allowable 10 percent against the dollar Tuesday. The dollar finished for the second straight day at a record high, at 1,460 won against 1,342.50 won on Monday. The benchmark stock index plummeted 6.47 percent, to 388.00 points. And interest rates on three-year corporate bonds surged to 24.95 percent, just under the legal limit of 25 percent.

"In a sense, the market is telling the government that the conditions the IMF originally set are not enough," said Richard Samuelson, head of research for SBC Warburg Dillon Read in Seoul.

Mr. Lim said that many of the reforms ordered by the IMF were good for South Korea. But he suggested that the IMF was insisting on slowing economic growth to about 3 percent next year — half its level this year — without good cause.

"Is there any logic to insist on low growth rate and high unemployment?" he asked. "Growth rate should not be a target by itself, an inflexible target."

Despite the pain next year, however, he predicted the nation would be back to 5.6 percent growth in 1999.

JAPAN: *Nerves Are Frayed*

Continued from Page 1

things are pretty depressed — the sentiment is downbeat," he said. "The financial sector's woes have had a profound impact on spending patterns."

New-car registrations are off nearly 25 percent, meaning that millions of people are holding onto old cars rather than replacing them — the worst news in 15 years for the mighty Japanese car industry.

The housing industry is similarly downbeat: Housing starts have declined for 10 consecutive months; October was 25 percent worse than the year before. Department stores, supermarkets, restaurants, bars and small businesses are all reporting decreased sales.

Kiichi Miyazawa, a former prime minister and a key figure involved in the government plan to reshape the economy, said in an interview Monday that spirits were low in the country.

"There is a feeling of aimlessness and soul-searching," he said, as Japan sets off on a new economic course for the next century. But he added that the Japanese spirit of competitiveness would remain and that Japan would emerge stronger than before.

For years, America has been pushing Japan to stop propping up financial institutions and to let the free market prevail. But when Tokyo did that in November, allowing several large bankruptcies — on the heels of financial crises in South Korea, Thailand and Malaysia — the world markets panicked.

The immediate message from around the world is clear: The Japanese government must intervene and stabilize the markets before it hurts Wall Street and the rest of the world.

"If the boat is sinking, you plug the hole and worry about how to make the boat better later," said Mr. Jones of Lehman Brothers.

As Japan sorts out its economic chaos, the dark mood prevails. In dozens of interviews with people in Tokyo over the past several days, there was nearly unanimous agreement that there would be personal cost to the turmoil.

College students fretted about where to apply for a job. "What if they go bankrupt?" asked Manabu Suzuki, 22, a graduating Nihon University student. Housewives wondered what life would be like if their husbands were laid off. "What would I do with him home? My whole routine would change," one said.

Masahito Yazawa, 51, one of 200 employees of a company that specializes in women's necklaces, worried that people would stop buying luxuries. "We already feel the economy is hitting our business," he said. As a result, year-end bonuses at his company, which are often $10,000 or more, have been cut back by as much as 40 percent.

The economy is believed partly responsible for the declining enrollment in *juku*, Japan's famed and expensive "cram schools," which children attend after school and on weekends for extra studies. The juku have always helped children get into top schools, which then virtually guaranteed that they would be hired by top firms and employed for life.

But lifetime employment is no longer a guarantee, as 7,500 people found out when Yamaichi Securities shut down last month.

Some analysts say the public's perception is worse than the reality. Japan is solid in important ways that set it apart from other ailing Asian nations. It is the second-richest country in the world, with a stockpile of savings. It remains the word's largest creditor nation with more than $225 billion in foreign currency reserves, and it is home to Toyota and Sony and competitive manufacturing giants.

Part of the malaise is due to the sense that Japan has suffered an enormous comedown from 1990. In those days, Japanese millionaires were still setting spending records buying Van Goghs and Renoirs, the best French wine and marquee U.S. real estate.

It does not seem to matter to the national psyche that a significant number of the 15,000 people who have recently lost their jobs in the financial sector have new job offers or good prospects. People seem to focus only on the fact that the atmosphere now is full of uncertainty.

"Every day I watch to see how my bank is faring," said Teruyasu Takehisa, 57, a taxi driver. "My conviction is that no bank is safe. I am wondering if my closet is the best place for my money."

AIRBUS: *A Call to Arms*

Continued from Page 1

build a replacement for the 747, saying it has not found a market for such a plane.

Although Europe has successfully integrated civilian aircraft manufacturing, its defense industries remain fragmented and ill-prepared to compete against the American giants in a market that has shrunk after the collapse of communism and the scaling back of military spending.

The attempt by the European Union to forge a common foreign and defense policy has emphasized the need to create more efficient and competitive defense industries, analysts said.

European commercial rivalries are breaking down under the pressure of economic integration, which is expected to lead in little more than a year to the adoption of a single currency by a majority of the members of the 15-nation EU.

Although there has been increasing cooperation among individual countries, Europe still has two competing modern jet fighters, the French Rafale and the projected British-German-Italian Eurofighter, while Saab also produces a multirole combat plane.

The United States, meanwhile, is moving toward a single fighter early in the next century for all its armed forces. Defense experts argue that without a strong coordinated program, the European companies could end up as subcontractors to Boeing Co., Lockheed Martin Corp. and Hughes Raytheon. That could lead to American domination of the European defense industry and intensify the U.S. challenge to Airbus.

The European companies have begun to consolidate, but only in narrow areas. Aerospatiale and Daimler-Benz merged their helicopter activities to create Eurocopter, while Matra of France and BAe created a joint missile company called Matra BAe Dynamics. Meanwhile, France is seeking to form alliances based on the restructuring of its defense electronics company, Thomson-CSF.

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INTERNATIONAL

Branson's Balloon Leaves Without Him

Reuters

MARRAKESH, Morocco — A giant balloon owned by the businessman Richard Branson broke its moorings and blew away Tuesday as technicians were inflating it with helium at a air base here for a round-the-world attempt.

"The project is over," said a spokesman for the British tycoon. "I have just told Branson of the incident. Nobody was hurt," but he declined to give further details.

Shortly afterward, Mr. Branson, in his green pilot's suit, arrived at the air base with his children Holly, 16, and Sam, 12. They had come to Morocco to watch the launch.

"I am sorry for everybody," Mr. Branson said briefly, adding that the Moroccan gendarmerie were trying to recover the balloon and that he would decide what to do later.

The 32,000 cubic meter (1.1 million cubic feet) white balloon broke free in mid-morning, soaring into the sunny sky over the ancient city of Marrakesh, and headed toward the Atlas Mountains.

There was no immediate explanation for why the balloon escaped, although one technician was said, "The wind turned it round and it suddenly broke free."

Tim Ockenden/The Associated Press

Richard Branson waving good-bye as his balloon drifted away after tearing loose from its moorings.

Balloonists' Last Challenge: Nonstop World Tour

By Malcolm W. Browne
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Hoping to become the first balloonists to circle the world nonstop and win a $1 million prize, four teams of aeronauts are fine-tuning their complex balloons for a dangerous race.

A fifth team was eliminated Tuesday — before the race even began — when its balloon broke its moorings.

The 1997-98 circumglobal balloon race could start this week if the weather is favorable; if not, crews will wait anxiously at their launching sites on three continents for clearance by their meteorology teams, which could take days or months. Contenders must make their attempts between mid-December and the end of February to take advantage of eastward wind streams that can carry them around the world at speeds of up to 200 miles (320 kilometers) an hour.

Last month, Anheuser-Busch, the beer company, announced that it would award a cup and $500,000 to the first balloon team to circle the earth nonstop, and would present another $500,000 to a charity of the winning team's choice. This is the first time any award has been offered for a round-the-world balloon flight.

Although balloonists have made many attempts to circle the world, none has ever come close to success, and some have been killed. But balloon technology has advanced so rapidly in recent years that the forthcoming attempts are regarded by the participants as a real race in which more than one balloon might finish the course. They will compete not merely for the monetary prize (which is fairly small, compared with the cost of the balloons) but to reach the last great unachieved goal of lighter-than-air flight.

Rival crews, despite their friendship with each other, have become somewhat secretive about their planned routes, departure dates, overflight clearances from potentially hostile governments, technical improvements and other competitive details.

"This time there's a real chance someone will make the global circuit," said Donald Cameron, whose British company, Cameron Balloons Ltd., built four of the five balloons in this year's competition. "Naturally, everyone's looking for any competitive edge they can find over the rest of the field."

The International Aeronautical Federation has issued a detailed set of criteria for circumglobal flights. No balloon may land during its flight. Each balloon must reach or go beyond the longitude from which it took off, and it must travel a distance equal to two-thirds of the earth's equatorial circumference. This means that each balloon must stay within a zone extending from the equator to about 40 degrees north latitude.

The balloons built by Cameron and its major competitor, Lindstrand Balloons Ltd., are similar in overall design. All five are known as Roziers, named for the French balloonist Jean Francois Pilatre de Rozier, the inventor of the type. On Nov. 21, 1783, de Rozier became one of the first two human beings to fly, but two years later a balloon he invented, a hybrid depending on both hydrogen and hot air for lift, burst into flames and crashed. De Rozier thus became the first person to be killed in a flying accident.

Despite his unlucky career, de Rozier's hybrid balloon design is now used by all would-be transglobal balloonists. The upper cell of each of these balloons is filled with noninflammable helium to provide most of the needed lift. An inverted cone fitted beneath the helium cell is filled with air heated by propane, ethane or kerosene burners to provide additional lift.

A simple gas balloon, lacking supplementary lift from heated air, is more limited in duration.

During daylight hours a simple gas balloon is warmed by the sun, and its gas expands, causing the balloon to rise. If it rises too high the expanding gas may exceed the balloon's volume, forcing the crew to release some of it. But at night the cool air chills the gas, reducing the balloon's lift and forcing it to descend. To halt the descent a pilot must drop ballast, and when the ballast is exhausted, the flight must end.

But a Rozier balloon requires little or no ballast. Instead of dropping weights when the balloon descends in the evening, the pilot can light his burners and obtain the needed lift from hot air.

Some of this year's Rozier balloons are equipped with tents designed to shield the upper balloon surface from the sun. Such a tent, which gives a balloon a somewhat ungainly appearance, is supported from within by a small helium balloon that serves as a kind of tent pole.

Some balloons are insulated by double layers of gas-proof fabric, but balloonists debate the utility of such features.

Albright Turns a New Leaf in Central Africa

By Thomas W. Lippman
Washington Post Service

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright began a seven-nation tour of Africa on Tuesday by acknowledging that the Clinton administration and other Western governments mishandled the Rwanda crisis of 1994 — a recognition that aides said was central to the new U.S. approach to Africa that she is presenting on this trip.

The mass murders in Rwanda and other conflicts stretching across Central Africa from Uganda to Angola have convinced her that the huge country in the center of that region — Congo, formerly Zaire — holds the key to the continent's future, senior officials said. The United States is prepared to work with and support the country's new leader, Laurent Kabila, if he shows that he deserves it, they said.

"Today we have a choice," Mrs. Albright said here in a speech to the Organization of African Unity. "We can pursue shortsighted rivalries, seek short term gains and make only commitments of short duration. Or we can decide to move forward from the failures and recriminations of the past and begin to forge pragmatic, enduring responses to the immense challenges we face."

One way to "move forward," she said, is to recognize responsibility for the catastrophes that have plagued Africa in recent years.

"Let me begin that process here today," she said, "by acknowledging that we — the international community — should have been more active in the early stages of the atrocities in Rwanda in 1994 and called them what they were: genocide."

Hundreds of thousands of Rwandans died in the mass tribal violence of 1994 while the outside world dithered about how to stop it and the United States avoided using the term "genocide," lest it be required to intervene under the terms of a treaty prohibiting genocide.

Those failures, Mrs. Albright said, perpetuated the "culture of impunity that has claimed so many lives and done so much to discredit legitimate authority throughout the region."

In a conversation with a group of high school students, Mrs. Albright described a trip she made to Rwanda, Burundi, Angola and Liberia as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations as "the worst trip I have ever taken."

On that tour of brutalized societies and failed states, a senior official said, she realized that the chaos in Zaire was at least partly responsible for the misery plaguing those neighboring countries. Militias were based in Zaire, weapons were coming through Zaire, the then-president, Mobutu Sese Seko, was providing money to rebels. The logical conclusion she came to, senior aides said, was that the key to stabilizing the region was in promoting democracy, building legitimate law enforcement institutions and encouraging economic progress in what is now the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Mrs. Albright announced that Washington would provide $10 million to a World Bank fund for reconstruction in Congo and would ask Congress for $30 million in fiscal 1999 to "train court and police officials, rebuild legal machinery where it has fallen into disrepair and assist programs that promote conciliation and healing after conflict."

Senior officials said Mr. Kabila, as an unelected leader with a questionable commitment to democracy and human rights, has yet to show that he merits a place among the new African leaders to whom Washington is looking for leadership. Mrs. Albright will stress in Kinshasa later this week that Western aid and support will depend on his performance, they said.

Belgian to Take Command of Eurocorps

Agence France-Presse

STRASBOURG — Lieutenant General Leo van den Bosch of Belgium will take over Monday as commander of the Strasbourg-based Eurocorps, military officials said Tuesday.

Mr. van den Bosch will succeed General Pierre Forterre of the French Army. The Eurocorps is a tactical military grouping of about 50,000 troops from Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg and Spain.

BRIEFLY

Cohen to Postpone Trip to the Mideast

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary William Cohen has decided to postpone a trip to Egypt, Jordan and Israel that had been scheduled to begin Saturday because of continuing tension over UN arms inspections in Iraq, defense officials said Tuesday.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, also suggested that Mr. Cohen needed time in Washington to prepare for decisions on any new NATO-led peacekeeping force in Bosnia-Herzegovina next June, and whether U.S. troops might take part in such a force.

The Pentagon was expected to make an official announcement later of the second trip postponement by Mr. Cohen in a month over the Iraqi situation. On Nov. 10, he put off a 12-day visit to China and five other Asian states that had been scheduled to begin two days later. *(Reuters)*

Saddam Approves Design for Mosque

BAGHDAD — President Saddam Hussein has approved the design for what Iraq says will be the world's largest mosque, with a capacity for 30,000 worshippers. It will be named the "Saddam Grand Mosque."

Iraqi newspapers Tuesday printed a picture of the Iraqi leader accompanied by several members of his cabinet examining the plans for the mosque in Baghdad.

"This mosque consists of a large dome for the main area of prayer enough for 30,000 worshipers decorated with four minarets and an artificial lake," said Ath Thawra, the newspaper of the ruling Baath party. *(AP)*

El Nino May Be Ebbing

LOS ANGELES — The warm Pacific Ocean water mass known as El Nino may be ebbing, according to a report Tuesday.

New satellite data released by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory shows the mass has shrunk by at least 10 percent, falling to a level last observed in early September, the Los Angeles Times reported. *(AP)*

For the Record

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has blocked imports of raspberries from Guatemala for 1998 after outbreaks of food-borne illness were linked to the imported fruit during the past two seasons. *(Reuters)*

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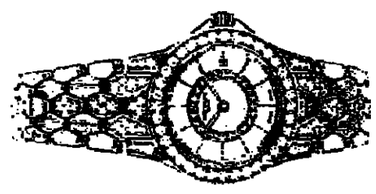

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Scientist Charged With Aiding China

Taiwan-Born Physicist Admits to Passing Secrets About Laser Technology

By Eric Lichtblau
Los Angeles Times Service

LOS ANGELES — A physicist with access to sensitive intelligence about U.S. nuclear weapons programs has pleaded guilty, in federal court to charges that he passed secrets to Chinese scientists during a 1985 visit to China and lied to a government agency about his foreign dealings after another visit this year.

The motive for the physicist's actions, the authorities said they believed, was not money, but national loyalties.

Peter Lee, 58, of Manhattan Beach, California, "wanted to help the Chinese government and the Chinese scientists and to do something to advance what he considered to be a poorer, less technologically advanced scientific community," a law enforcement source said.

The law enforcement official described Mr. Lee's motives "as an empathy and a sympathy for that country based on his ancestry."

He added: "He seemed to be eager to help friends back there."

Mr. Lee, who was born in Taiwan, remains free on bond and faces up to 15 years in federal prison and a fine of $250,000. He will be sentenced Feb. 23 before a U.S. District judge in Los Angeles.

Mr. Lee's attorney did not return several calls, and a woman at his home refused to answer questions from a reporter.

In the mid-1980s, Mr. Lee, considered an expert in laser energy, worked on U.S. government projects to study the use lasers to simulate nuclear detonations.

In January 1985, while an employee at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, he traveled to China, the authorities said.

While there, the authorities said Mr. Lee admitted in court Monday, he met with Chinese scientists and gave them "detailed information" about laser technology that he knew to be classified at that time.

Much of the material has since been declassified, prosecutors said.

Mr. Lee traveled again to China in May and spoke with scientific groups about his work as a physicist at TRW Space and Electronics Group in Manhattan Beach.

But after returning, he submitted false information on a security form, denying that he had discussed technical information with the Chinese, officials said.

Chinese groups paid for Mr. Lee's travel expenses, but it did not appear "that he was getting any big stacks of money" for his technical advice, a source said.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jonathan Shapiro said Monday that "clearly law enforcement and the intelligence community are extremely interested in conducting a thorough damage assessment" to determine how the material may have been used by the Chinese.

"This is a significant, tangible example of a top scientist violating his oath to protect the nation's secrets," Mr. Shapiro said. "Even though it happened 12 years ago, it is and remains a serious crime."

State Department officials declined to comment Monday on the Lee case.

Mr. Lee has been cooperating with the authorities, and he turned himself in to enter his guilty pleas Monday.

Under an agreement with federal prosecutors, he was allowed to remain free after posting a $250,000 property bond and giving up his passport, officials said.

A spokesman for TRW said that the company would dismiss Mr. Lee and that it has been cooperating with the FBI.

Delay Sought in Punishing Swiss Banks

Jewish Leader Proposes March 31 Deadline for 'Nazi Gold' Settlement

By John M. Goshko
Washington Post Service

NEW YORK — The president of the World Jewish Congress has asked city and state financial officers in the United States to postpone any punitive measures against Swiss banks until March 31 while an effort is made to negotiate a comprehensive settlement of billions of dollars in claims against the banks from Holocaust survivors and their heirs.

The appeal by Edgar Bronfman, who has been designated by the Israeli government to lead negotiations with the Swiss banks, was made at a conference of financial officials organized by the New York City comptroller, Alan Hevesi.

About 200 officials attended the conference Monday, many from local or state governments that have considered withdrawing public funds from Swiss banks or taking other action to protest the banks' policies toward Germany during World War II.

American Jewish organizations and politicians have engaged in a long campaign to prod the Swiss into atoning for their aid to Nazi Germany and to help Holocaust victims and heirs recover assets held by Swiss banks since the war.

In July and October, the biggest Swiss banks abandoned decades of secrecy and made public the names on some 5,500 dormant accounts that collectively are worth about $47 million.

But many survivors and their supporters contend that this is only a sliver of the amount involved, and about 18,000 plaintiffs are seeking $20 billion from the three biggest Swiss banks in a class-action suit pending in U.S. District Court in Brooklyn.

Although there was no attempt Monday to seek commitments from city and state officials that they would not take action against the Swiss banks, most officials indicated that they would comply with the moratorium request.

The officials cited their sense that the Swiss banks may not be able to resist much longer the diplomatic, economic, legal and moral pressure for them to settle.

Mr. Hevesi has hinted that failure to get action in the compensation effort could compel New York City to use its sizable holdings in Switzerland as leverage against the banks.

Similar comments have been made by officials in New Jersey, California and Chicago.

But not everyone was in accord with Mr. Bronfman's request.

The Clinton administration made it known through Madeleine Kunin, its ambassador to Switzerland, and Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat, its principal negotiator with the Swiss, that it would prefer a moratorium on retaliatory actions that goes far beyond March 31.

Addressing the group, Mrs. Kunin recalled that when she was governor of Vermont before her appointment as ambassador, she supported state sanctions against the white supremacist government then ruling South Africa.

But, she added, she believes the Swiss are trying in good faith to make amends, and she concluded: "We should let our diplomacy and Switzerland's democracy do their parts."

Mr. Eizenstat, who is leading the U.S. delegation at the environmental conference in Kyoto, Japan, sent a lengthy message that concluded: "It continues to be my judgment that state and local sanctions are not only unwarranted but would be counterproductive.

"I see little practical wisdom in increasing pressure just when progress is finally being made and just when the desired results finally are within reach."

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2 Officers Are Punished For Neo-Nazi Incident

German Defense Chief Acts in Army Incident

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

BERLIN — Defense Minister Volker Ruehe has punished two senior officers for their roles in allowing a convicted neo-Nazi to address soldiers at an elite military academy.

Mr. Ruehe suspended a lieutenant general and ordered disciplinary proceedings against a colonel for inviting Manfred Roeder, a former lawyer who served eight years in prison for racist bombings against immigrants, to speak in 1995 at a leadership seminar at the Hamburg academy.

The Roeder affair was the latest and potentially most damaging blow to the political rectitude of the German armed forces, which have found their postwar reputation damaged by several controversies that have demonstrated persistent extreme rightist activity within the ranks.

The Defense Ministry announced recently that more than 80 incidents involving neo-Nazi behavior have been under investigation in the past year. They range from the possession of far-right propaganda to drunken assaults against Turks and other foreigners living in Germany.

Last week, disciplinary action was taken against six paratroopers who decorated a room in their barracks with pictures of Adolf Hitler and pre-World War II army flags. German soldiers also have been shown on videotapes staging mock executions and rapes, while others gave the banned Nazi salute and made anti-Semitic remarks.

Mr. Ruehe insisted that these cases have been isolated incidents and did not prove that rightist extremism was rampant within the army. All German males are required to serve nine months in the military or do other kinds of obligatory civil service.

Mr. Roeder, 68, was jailed in 1982 for leading an extremist group that carried out attacks on immigrant hostels in which two Vietnamese people died and several others were injured.

Since his release from prison in 1990, his activities have been monitored by the nation's anti-extremist watchdog agency, which is empowered by the postwar constitution to keep an eye on dangerous political radicals.

Mr. Ruehe described Mr. Roeder as "one of the most disgusting neo-Nazis" to speak at the prestigious academy. His subject was ethnic Germans who populated Koenigsberg, the former capital of East Prussia, which is now the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad, situated between Poland and the Baltic states. He later was allowed to attend a banquet at the academy along with two dozen soldiers and officers.

Opposition politicians said they were outraged by the continuing evidence of neo-Nazi activities in the army and demanded Mr. Ruehe's resignation.

"Either someone planned this or committed a stupid blunder," said Walter Kolbow, a defense expert for the Social Democrats. "I hope in the interests of the Bundeswehr it was the latter because anything else would be a scandal."

Mr. Ruehe said at a press conference in Bonn on Monday that there was no evidence to suggest that those responsible for Mr. Roeder's appearance were aware of his background or his neo-Nazi sympathies. But he said they deserved to be punished for their failure to investigate his background.

BRIEFLY

Murad Sezer/The Associated Press

TURKISH FLOOD — A milk truck caught in high water Monday after a storm in Istanbul. Hundreds of houses and businesses were inundated.

Spain Asks to Share Control of Gibraltar

MADRID — Spain on Tuesday proposed sharing sovereignty over Gibraltar with Britain in an apparent softening of its long-standing demand for sole rule.

The proposal will be presented to the British foreign secretary, Robin Cook, at an annual meeting on Gibraltar in London on Wednesday, a spokesman for the Spanish Foreign Ministry said.

A spokesman for the British Embassy in Madrid said, "Anything related to sovereignty needs to be considered by the U.K. government and the people of Gibraltar, but no offer will be rejected out of hand." *(Reuters)*

Court Blames France In Farmer Vandalism

BRUSSELS — The European Court of Justice ruled Tuesday that France had not met its obligations to ensure the free movement of goods in the face of a violent campaign by French farmers against Spanish fruit and vegetable imports in 1993 and 1994.

The ruling cleared the way for Spanish companies to pursue compensation claims in the French courts. *(AFP)*

Serbia Vote 'Flawed'

BELGRADE — Serbian elections this fall were "fundamentally flawed," with widespread potential for vote-rigging and bias in the state media in favor of the governing Socialists, international officials said Tuesday.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said that the Socialists had failed to allow other parties full access to the vote count.

It also said that several irregularities had been noted in the southern province of Kosovo. *(AP)*

For the Record

Turkey's population exceeds 62.5 million, up from 56.5 million in 1990, according to the unofficial results of a census taken last month. *(AFP)*

Siberian Mining Enclave Faces a New Hardship: Capitalism

By Michael R. Gordon
New York Times Service

NORILSK, Russia — Hardship is second nature for the residents of this Siberian enclave. Winter sends the temperature plunging to minus 45 degrees centigrade and drops the sun below the horizon for months at a time.

It was Stalin who established this arctic city and dispatched hundreds of thousands of political prisoners here to extract the metal ore from mines so deep they seemed to run to the very center of the Earth.

Later, Norilsk became a notorious example of wasteful communist planning, a place in which the air and water were fouled with noxious chemicals that even now make breathing a hazard.

But today, the people of Norilsk face what many feel is their greatest challenge: the new world of capitalism.

Russia's most powerful bank has bought the gargantuan mining and metallurgical complex that is the city's main employer and plans to slash the company's enormous work force and move more than a third of the city's residents to the south.

The audacious plan illustrates a pivotal phase in Russia's shaky transition to a free-market economy: whether the businessmen who have bought state enterprises at fire-sale prices have the management expertise to reshape those companies so they can be internationally competitive.

At stake is not only the financial health of the companies but also Russia's long-deferred hopes for economic growth, already shaken by wild gyrations in the international capital markets.

"Norilsk will be changed completely," said Vladimir Potanin, the 36-year-old head of Uneximbank, which has a controlling interest in Norilsk Nickel, as the metal complex is known.

But some experts remain dubious.

"These new bankers are dealmakers," said Anders Aslund, a former economic adviser to the Russian government and a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "They know something about finance. But they know very little about management."

From the start, Russia's development of Norilsk's vast ore deposits has been a tangled tale of missed opportunities and ruthlessness.

Lying on the remote Taimyr Peninsula, where Siberia meets the Kara Sea, Norilsk lies in a forbidding and isolated zone. When workers here talk about visiting the rest of Russia, they say they are going to the "continent," as if Norilsk were not a sprawling city of 260,000 but an island separated by a frigid ocean.

This region contains more than a third of the world's nickel reserves and two-fifths of the platinum-group metals. It also has significant amounts of cobalt and copper.

Russia's authorities ignored Norilsk's early prospectors. At the end of the 19th century, Kipriyan Sotnikov, a local constable who dreamed of wresting a fortune from Norilsk's hills, sent a sample of copper ore to the czar's treasury. The czar's men turned it away, complaining that the copper, needed to make kopecks, was contaminated with nickel, cobalt and platinum.

But as World War II loomed over Europe three decades later, Stalin started a crash effort to tap the deposits.

Political prisoners were hauled by boat to the arctic port of Dudinka, 100 kilometers (60 miles) to the west. They laid the rail lines, dug the mines and manned the factories.

About 360,000 prisoners toiled away here from 1935 to 1956, according to a report by the Institute for Contemporary Politics, a Moscow-based research center. The institute estimates conservatively that 17,000 died.

Some of the former prisoners still hang on, like Vilis Traubergs, who recounted his tales of prison life by the eerie glow of fluorescent lights on the windowsills of his small apartment. Like other residents, Mr. Traubergs uses the lights to grow vegetables and supplement the supply of food imported from the "continent."

Many of Norilsk's current residents, however, were lured here after the prison camps closed by promises of higher salaries, free vacations and early retirement.

They were workers like Alexandra Mironenko, who left a village in southern Russia with his wife, hoping to put away a nest egg. He planned to stay no more than a few years but has lived here for 15 years. He earns 5 million rubles ($850) a month as a mechanic — several times the going wage in the south — and still harbors hopes of moving back to the "continent" to build a home.

Others consider themselves little more than economic prisoners. Their savings were wiped out by the soaring inflation of the early 1990s. The higher cost of food and transportation, plus the difficulty in finding new jobs, new housing and securing new residency permits, have turned Norilsk from a springboard into a trap.

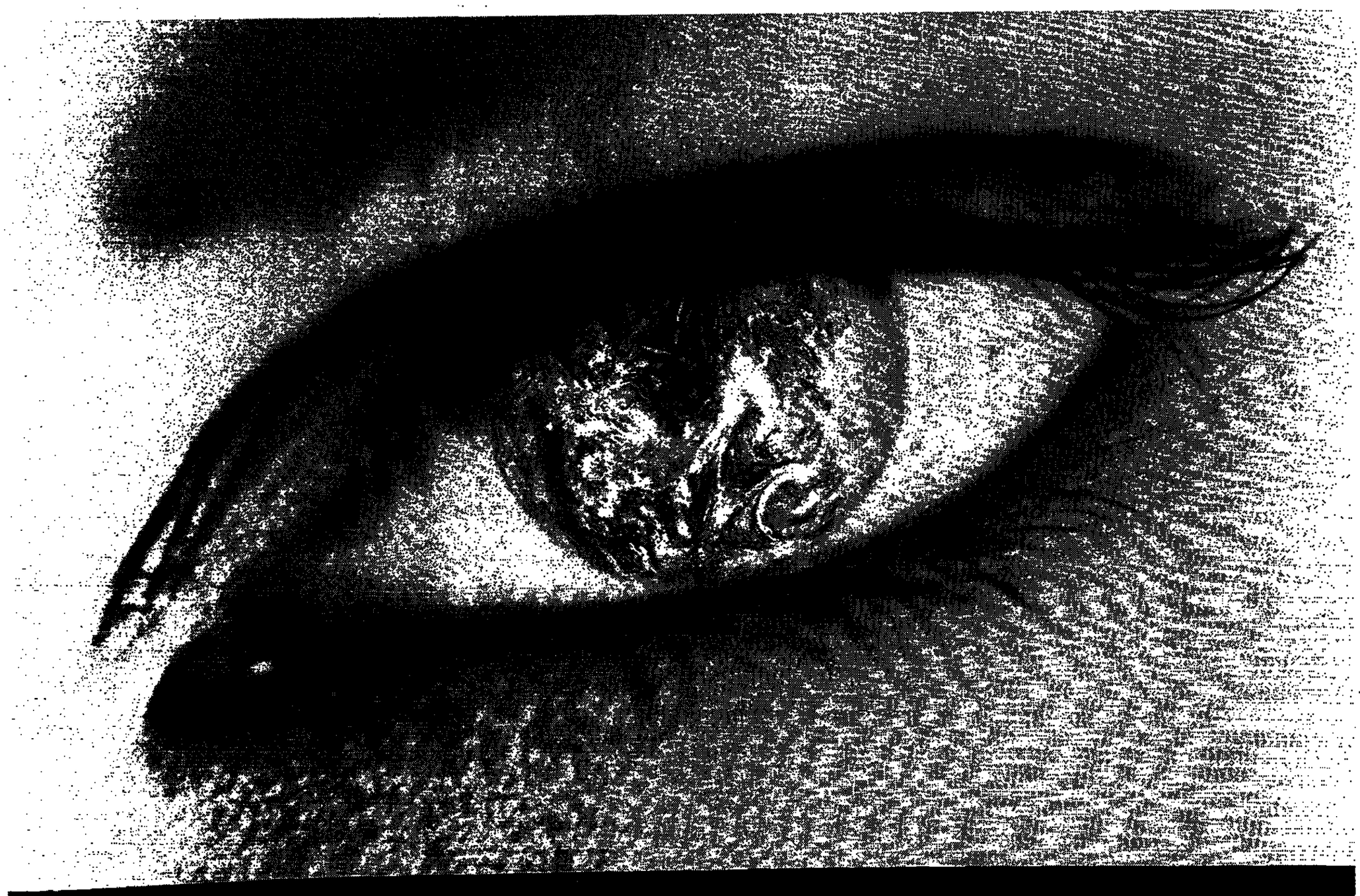
The hard times have spawned a new cottage industry. Norilsk is dotted with small shops, where well-tailored businessmen with mobile phones buy the few shares of stock that the workers received through privatization on behalf of anonymous clients. The going rate: half the price at the Moscow stock exchange.

The questions now are whether the doddering Soviet-style metal complex can be run along capitalist principles and at what cost.

Even with the best of intentions, transforming Norilsk is a Herculean task. Changing the mentality of the managers and the workers is a big part of the problem. During Soviet times, all that mattered was production. To produce as quickly as possible, metal was skimmed from the richest ore and much of the remaining metal content discarded as waste.

Foremen never wondered if they could get by with fewer men, and many still find the idea of downsizing offensive and even unpatriotic. Some advanced technology was developed, but often little was spent to keep equipment up to date and reduce labor requirements.

"It is difficult to get used to the idea that labor is a commodity," said Yuri Filippov, a longtime manager here. "People do not like idea of hired labor. They think it means they are slaves."



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America Loses a Battle

In the long-running battle of little yellow boxes vs. little green boxes, the green team — Fuji Photo Film Co. — has scored a big win. Eastman Kodak Co. had maintained that Fuji and the Japanese government colluded to keep Kodak film out of Japan. But the World Trade Organization, the Geneva-based arbiter of trade disputes established in 1995, last week dismissed a case that the United States had brought on Kodak's behalf. The decision was preliminary and can be appealed, but the judges from Switzerland, Brazil and New Zealand found so little merit in the U.S. case that a reversal seems unlikely.

The defeat ignited a predictable firestorm on Capitol Hill. Japan's victory "raises serious questions about the credibility" of the WTO, Missouri Republican Senator John Ashcroft said. Other members of both parties agreed.

Before pique prompts the United States to pick up its ball and go home from Geneva, it is worth recalling that the WTO, in its short life thus far, has been very good to the U.S. side. The United States has brought more cases to the WTO than any other country, and until last week it had not lost one. Seven had been decided in the U.S. favor, and seven more had been settled favorably in advance of a ruling, including two victories against Japan. Wanting to win every game is an admirable trait, but accepting occasional defeat with grace and perspective also has its uses.

This case was more visible than most for several reasons. Kodak and Fuji spent tens of millions of dollars on lawyers, lobbyists and public relations firms. Kodak, facing serious troubles on other fronts, invested its case against Japan with more hope and significance than the weight of its evidence could bear. And the ruling came as Japan's trade surplus with the United States seems sure to soar to levels that the Japanese themselves realize, or should realize, will have damaging political consequences at the least.

This case also resonated more than most beyond its narrow sector because its underlying premise was solid: The Japanese economy is more closed and difficult to penetrate than Europe's or America's. Cartels and sweetheart deals are more common, price-fixing is less aggressively policed, consumers' interests are sacrificed to those of domestic producers.

The United States failed, in Geneva, to prove that deliberate Japanese government policies had caused Kodak's troubles. But the pattern of domestic producers such as Fuji enjoying protected markets in which they can charge high prices, and from which they can then wage aggressive turf battles overseas, is too pervasive for Japan to deny.

The irony is that this economic model, while damaging to foreign firms, has turned out to be even more harmful to Japan itself. Most Japanese politicians and leading industry groups now acknowledge that Japan must deregulate, enforce its antitrust laws and take other measures to open its economy. Japan in fact has taken some steps in the right direction, but political resistance has kept much of the rhetoric from moving to reality. A WTO victory for Kodak might have nudged Japanese reform along; it would be nice to think that Japan's government could follow through even without outside pressure.

In the meantime, you might think that Fuji's victory would reassure those Americans who worry that the WTO will infringe too far on national sovereignty. The trade panel has been willing to strike down obvious trade barriers, but more subtle ones that are closely interwoven with the very fabric of how a nation organizes its own economy may pose a greater challenge.

As this and other cases play out, the United States may want to consider remedies — bringing antitrust enforcement into the realm of international trade law, for example. But while considering possible reforms, Americans should keep two things in mind: that any extension of the WTO's reach can be equally turned back on America — and that so far the U.S. record in Geneva, Kodak's pain notwithstanding, is one that any other country would envy.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

New Nuclear Guidelines

The Clinton administration has sensibly revised America's nuclear warfare guidelines to catch up with the diplomatic and military changes since the end of the Cold War. The new doctrine, approved by President Bill Clinton last month, marks an important step toward a world in which the United States relies on fewer nuclear weapons for its defense.

Outlining circumstances in which Washington might use nuclear weapons may seem a surreal exercise. The idea of waging a nuclear war appears inconceivable, and winning one meaningless, given the scale of destruction on all sides. But these plans are important because America continues to rely on its formidable nuclear arsenal to deter potential nuclear, biological and chemical attack.

The new guidelines replace plans drafted by the Reagan administration, which envisioned protracted nuclear exchanges with the Soviet Union using all of the more than 10,000 deliverable nuclear warheads that America then possessed. The updated version anticipates a more than adequate deterrent force of some 2,500 warheads. The guidelines have also been changed in response to China's increased military power and the germ warfare and nerve gas programs of countries like Iraq.

Two major arms reduction agreements with Moscow have already cut American and Russian warheads to around 6,000 each. Informal discussions have begun on a third treaty that could bring both sides down to 2,000 warheads or lower. Once the United States and Russia reach that level, arms reduction talks will have to include the other nuclear powers, Britain, China and France, as well.

Meanwhile, threats like biological and chemical weapons are becoming more menacing. Washington's new guidelines allow, but do not require, America to use nuclear weapons in response to attacks with germ warheads or poison gas. President George Bush's implicit threat of such a response may have helped persuade Saddam Hussein not to use his terror weapons during the Gulf War.

That example is reason enough for America not to rule out nuclear responses to biological or chemical attacks. But presidents must be extremely cautious about actually using nuclear weapons, even where the guidelines permit it. As American presidents have understood since Harry Truman declined to use nuclear bombs in Korea, legitimizing the use of these weapons in battle would weaken the taboo that restrains other nuclear powers from using theirs, doing far more to imperil America's global security than to advance it.

Washington's nuclear warfare guidelines are always more bellicose than actual American policies because they represent a list of nuclear options available to the president. As the Cuban missile crisis tapes from the Kennedy White House show, presidents have understood that the use of nuclear weapons must be the option of last resort, and even then, one that is all but unthinkable. President Clinton now has an improved nuclear planning document that takes account of arms cuts already agreed to and leaves room for further reductions.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Climate Worries Insurers

The insurance industry is worried. Natural disasters represent 85 percent of insured catastrophe losses globally, or $12.4 billion in 1995. Climate changes wrought by global warming may be driving these costs higher.

Wildfires that raged in Indonesia this fall, sparked by the unfortunate combination of deforestation and drought, and the looming threat of major weather-related disasters this winter due to El Niño are the kinds of costly events that some insurers fear will become more frequent if society continues to pump greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

According to Franklin Nutter, president of the Reinsurance Association of America, nearly half of the insured losses from natural disasters during the past four decades have been incurred since 1990.

He summed up the threat this way: "The insurance business is first in line to be affected by climate change. It could bankrupt the industry."

— Evan Mills, commenting in The Washington Post.

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Isn't Europe Ambitious Enough to Admit Turkey?

By Ismail Cem

Mr. Cem is Turkish foreign minister.

ISTANBUL — Will the future of the European Union be limited by religious and ethnic considerations, or will it be one that reaches out and boldly contributes to diversity and unity?

The Union is deciding on its enlargement process. One important decision is what role to offer Turkey, Western Europe's main historical, cultural and economic link to eastern horizons. Either the choice that the Union makes will provide a bridge of conciliation, or it will be discriminatory.

We in Turkey consider ourselves both European and Asian, and view this duality as an asset.

We find it disturbing when our European traits are questioned.

We have lived 700 years of our history in Europe and as a European power. Our history was molded as much in Istanbul, Edirne and Sarajevo as in Bursa, Kayseri and Diyarbakir.

Or is "European" defined by a religious criterion? Is the European Union a Christian club?

If European culture is defined as the EU officially claims — that is, by factors such as democracy, human rights, rule of law, gender equality and secularism — then, despite the need for further progress on some issues, we have shared and contributed to European culture for 75 years.

We ask ourselves: What is the real problem? What explains the negation of declared EU commitments made to Turkey over a period of three decades? What is it that causes the reluctance to call a country that has an association agreement with EU, and is part of the EU Customs Union, a mere "candidate"?

Why is there discrimination against a NATO member which has contributed extensively to the defense of Europe? Why is there discrimination against one of the most dynamic economies of Europe, a country that will bring a lot in terms of markets and growth to the whole of Europe? On the eve of the new millennium, is the undeclared cause of discrimination the fact that Turkey is a Muslim country?

As for our relations with Greece, conventional criticism is generally unfounded. You need both sides to solve a bilateral problem. In my time in office, Turkey has done everything possible to improve relations. Third parties involved in negotiations to promote better understanding between us can bear witness to our efforts.

In talks with my EU counterparts, I have thoroughly addressed the problems of human rights and democracy. I agree with most of the well-intentioned criticism, but reject politically motivated and exaggerated claims. During this present government's time in office there has been considerable progress, although more is needed.

But Turkey and the European Union, in any case, are not talking about immediate membership. We are looking at a long-term accession process that could play an important role in tackling some of the above-mentioned problems.

It seems to me that the European Union still cannot decide whether it can face the challenges of an emerging new world; whether it is capable of seizing the vast opportunities to encompass new economic, historical and cultural dimensions; whether it can contribute to the harmonization of civilizations rather than to the clash of civilizations.

Will Europe enclose itself within a confined strategic vision and continue to call for a problem-solver from another continent to resolve European problems like Bosnia or Cyprus? Will it be an introverted organization, or emerge as one that takes responsibility to create a better world for itself and for all?

Turkey can contribute in all these areas positively, perhaps decisively.

I hope that the EU will not discriminate against us, will not exclude Turkey's candidacy from the present enlargement process and pre-accession strategy. I also hope it will not cause further resentment in Turkey, will not deflate Turkey's enthusiasm and momentum, will not take a course that would damage its links with Turkey.

The European Union is not an obsession for Turkey, but I hope it makes the right decision. It is still not too late for Europe's leaders to do right by Turkey while serving well the Union's own interests.

The writer contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune and to Global Viewpoint (Los Angeles Times Syndicate).

No Country Is Beyond the Financial Markets' Power

By Roger C. Altman

WASHINGTON — The film "Independence Day" depicts gigantic and terrifying spaceships appearing over the key capitals of the world. Large enough to block the sun, they hover, silently, just above the tallest buildings.

Confused and frightened citizens pitifully try to befriend them, but the alien vessels unleash rays of terrible force, obliterating the cities in minutes.

In the last six months, global financial markets similarly have trained their fire on the capitals of East Asia. One by one, from Bangkok to Seoul, they have crushed previously stable currencies.

In their wake, they left soaring interest rates, tottering banking systems and slowing economies. Governments have been destabilized. The previously muscular "Asian tigers" have been crippled, and India may be next.

This devastation suggests that world financial markets have emerged as a form of supranational government for the 21st century.

They are not elected and do not convene. But as virtually all nations join the global economy, their finances are subject to the markets' rulings. Their currencies, which must be reasonably stable to promote national growth, are always on trial.

So is their access to international borrowing markets to finance exports and infrastructure. When these markets' verdict is negative, changes in national economic policies are forced, and entire governments can be powerless.

Increasingly, the International Monetary Fund is the only counterweight. It alone can assemble the resources necessary to financially rescue decimated nations. It alone has the political and territorial independence to demand tough financial reforms from the victim nation.

But questions now are being raised about whether even the IMF can withstand such overwhelming financial forces.

The most recent demonstration of the markets' awesome power began last summer.

For years, the leading nations of East Asia had been lionized as icons of growth. Their typical blend of high savings and investment with relatively autocratic economic and political rule had been hailed as the ideal recipe for developing nations. And their GDP growth rates, 6 to 8 percent annually in recent years, had been remarkable. But in July the foreign exchange markets became disenchanted with this region, beginning with Thailand.

Waves of selling battered its currency, which fell an astounding 40 percent against the dollar in three weeks. That made it hugely expensive for the country and its private borrowers to pay off their vast, dollar-denominated debt. The cost of imports soared. The central bank exhausted its reserves trying to defend the currency, and Thailand, in effect, went bankrupt.

Its government fell, and the IMF stepped in with a $17 billion package of emergency financing, conditioned on austerity measures.

As they invariably do, the markets had grasped what no one else had yet seen: Thailand was financially sick. Thais had been running up huge debts, mostly in dollars, and depending on the stability of their currency to repay them.

In particular, urged on by the political leadership, banks were shoveling loans into unprofitable and crony-controlled ventures.

The global markets next turned thumbs down on Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines in quick succession. They saw similar flaws in these economies. They drove the currencies and stock markets to drastically lower levels.

Then, like a spreading storm, this market opprobrium descended onto South Korea.

The markets flexed their muscles, and the tigers were turned into goats.

This power stems from profound changes in technology, global liquidity and the culture of investment performance.

Technology now permits information to be disseminated instantaneously worldwide and transactions to be executed electronically from any fully equipped terminal.

In addition, huge capital flows are professionally managed for maximum investment results. The result often is mass capital movements, favoring a nation or abandoning it. The verdicts cannot be appealed.

No nations are truly protected against these market rulings.

In 1979, then President Jimmy Carter submitted a long-awaited budget that displeased the global currency markets. The dollar collapsed. Within two weeks, Mr. Carter retreated and submitted a new, tighter budget to Congress.

Five years ago, British Prime Minister John Major, facing jittery markets, stood defiantly outside 10 Downing Street and vowed that Britain would not delink its pound from the key European currencies. Within days, after world markets crushed the pound, he reversed course in humiliating fashion.

These global markets are mostly unregulated today, and that is not likely to change.

The domestic activities of larger U.S. and European financial institutions are supervised by central banks and other agencies, but their international trading and investment businesses are largely unconstrained.

Moreover, the armies of mutual funds and other investment vehicles are largely unregulated. There is nothing illegal or unfair about their decisions.

The right focus, instead, is on the IMF. It is the emergency financier for faltering governments and the architect of austerity measures for their financial recovery. But the IMF should develop a better early-warning system.

In the Mexican collapse of 1995 and in this year's East Asian crisis, it issued no warnings to the nations involved.

The industrialized world must also ensure that the IMF has the necessary financial resources, however large, to prevent full-fledged collapses. Otherwise, the entire global financial system could be at risk.

In "Independence Day," the U.S. president personally leads a fighter squadron to destroy the alien ships. But global financial markets are invisible and beyond the reach of political leaders.

The writer was U.S. deputy Treasury secretary in 1993 and 1994. He contributed this comment to the Los Angeles Times.

The IMF Only Gets in the Way

By James K. Glassman

WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund was set up in 1945 to help guard the world's currencies under the Bretton Woods monetary agreement. But that deal was ditched long ago, and the IMF has become something else entirely — a lender of last resort to countries that get into financial trouble.

In that role it is doing far more harm than good.

A free market economy has a very efficient way of dealing with misjudgment, excess and failure. It is called bankruptcy. Lenders, investors, managers, employees and politicians all take part of the hit, and assets pass from weak hands to strong. Everyone learns important lessons and starts afresh.

By rushing to the rescue, the IMF is preventing this cleansing process and, in the current case of Asia, blowing a chance to inject freedom, imagination and competition into economies that suffer from too much government control.

The IMF is also creating a classic problem of "moral hazard." Helping imprudent countries actually encourages more imprudence in the future.

Look at Mexico, which received a $50 billion bailout in 1995. Mexico is in better shape than it was two years ago, but the rescue almost certainly gave governments in Asia a sense of confidence that, if they got into terrible straits, the IMF would help them, too.

Worse, the bailout encouraged investors, including U.S. mutual funds, to make risky bond and stock purchases in countries with overheated, shaky economies. And of course it has postponed Mexico's economic reforms.

Lately the IMF has been shoveling money at Thailand, Indonesia and now South Korea. The IMF has put up $35 billion for the three countries. (Roughly 18 percent of its funds come from the United States, with less than 6 percent each from Germany and Japan.)

The IMF does not act alone. It is the lead bank in a bailout consortium that includes the World Bank ($16 billion) and the United States ($8 billion). A total of $113 billion has been put up, with no end in sight.

IMF money typically comes with strings attached: requirements for higher interest rates and lower government spending, for instance. The Korean bailout will try to go even further. "Banking and financial-sector restructuring is absolutely at the heart of the program," says Stanley Fischer, the IMF's No. 2.

There is no doubt that South Korea, which will get $55 billion in bailout money, needs it. Like most other Asian nations, it practices command-and-control capitalism — a version of the Japanese business-government partnership model that still seduces America's liberals.

In South Korea, banks made massive loans, at the government's direction, to the chaebol, or conglomerates. The banks also owned large chunks of stock in Korean companies. So when a conglomerate like Kia Motors got into trouble, the banks were hit by a double whammy, although the government tried to cover the losses up.

The question is whether the IMF and its fleet of lenders can force reforms better than the free market, which would create a new South Korean economy through loan defaults and bankruptcies.

At a symposium at the American Enterprise Institute last week, Lawrence Lindsey, a former Federal Reserve governor, said unequivocally that "we would get much more done in Korea without the IMF bailout."

Deregulate South Korea's banking system and let its banks be bought out by American ones. That would do more to fix the economy than all the billions the IMF can throw at the problem.

IMF officials are not evil or stupid, but they do suffer from a kind of super-hubris, or overweening pride, that international institutions tend to breed. And they often forget that they are using other people's money for their good deeds. That money will not last forever, and the U.S. Congress is not in the mood to provide more.

To oppose IMF bailouts is not to oppose free market internationalism. On the contrary. Without the IMF and the World Bank, Asia would be more open, not less.

The conflict is not so much between globalists and isolationists as between those of us who want the future to take its own vivid course and politicians who try, vainly, to guide it along a path of their choosing.

The Asian countries have a lot going for them — a diligent work force and high savings rates, for starters. But they will never achieve their promise unless they jettison the top-down control and xenophobia that have landed them in their current mess. The way to end the old ways is to allow markets to punish the perpetrators.

The writer is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

The Peril in Kosovo

By Misha Glenny

LONDON — Bosnia is a shocking example of what happens when things go wrong in the Balkans. Kosovo is a disturbing example of where that may well happen again soon.

The province in southern Serbia is home to the former Yugoslavia's most intractable conflict. Ninety percent of Kosovo's more than 2 million people are Albanians who have suffered discrimination at the hands of the Serbian authorities. Human rights groups cite arbitrary arrests and beatings.

In the past, diplomats have dismissed Kosovo as the accident that never happens — the bomb that never explodes. There has been much tut-tutting and mild pressure, but no real push for a negotiated solution to Kosovo's problems. But in recent months the situation in the province has steadily deteriorated.

Until recently, the Albanians of Kosovo followed the advice of their self-proclaimed president, Ibrahim Rugova, and restricted themselves to peaceful protests. But the last 18 months have witnessed the emergence of the Kosovo Liberation Army, a shady group that has claimed responsibility for dozens of attacks on Serbian police officers and civilians. It has also killed Albanians accused of collaborating with the Serbs.

Members of the Kosovo Liberation Army stepped out of the shadows 10 days ago when three masked men attended the funeral of an Albanian teacher, Halit Geci, who had been killed in a shoot-out between the group and the Serbian police. Brandishing semiautomatic weapons, the three swore that they would avenge Mr. Geci's death and Kosovo's Albanians.

That finally drew the attention of diplomats. Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, described the surge in violence in the province as alarming and announced that Germany and France would be urgently looking for ways to contain the problem. The American chargé d'affaires in Belgrade, Richard C. Miles, visited Kosovo several days ago to appeal for calm.

If Kosovo ignites, violence could well spill over to Macedonia, where this year occasional shoot-outs have punctured the uneasy calm between Albanians and Macedonians.

Mr. Rugova, a moderate, is fast losing support among his people. Last week he renewed his appeal for U.S. and European mediation. Unfortunately, the Yugoslav president, Slobodan Milosevic, still the master of Serbian politics, has stated repeatedly that Kosovo is an internal problem and no outside mediation is necessary.

Serbs say they cannot make concessions in Kosovo because of its historical importance to them. It contains their most important religious monuments and is the symbol of Serbia's medieval statehood. But they must realize that Kosovo is now of no economic or strategic value to them.

For their part, the Kosovo Albanians must appreciate that they are not going to get independence overnight. If the Kosovo Liberation Army begins to dictate politics in Kosovo, there will be large-scale bloodshed.

The writer, author of "The Fall of Yugoslavia," is completing a history of Balkan nationalism. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1897: Jews in Russia

LONDON — The *Times'* St. Petersburg correspondent says: Judging by the terms of an Imperial decree, an anti-Jewish tendency seems to have again set in. It is stated that with the advice of the Minister of the Interior, the Tsar has agreed to repeal the paragraph of the passport laws as far as regards Moscow city and province, which gives to Jews studying pharmacy, the profession of medical attendant and midwifery the right to reside in all parts of the empire.

1922: Fascist Songs

MILAN — Maestro Arturo Toscanini has resigned as conductor at the Scala as the result of a Fascisti demonstration in that opera house during a gala performance of "Falstaff" in honor of the Italian Navy. The orchestra repeated the National Anthem at the request of many Fascisti in the audience, but when the Fascisti shouted for their hymn, "Giovinezza," Signor Toscanini replied that the orchestra was not prepared to play Fascist songs, to which the Fascisti answered with a riot.

1947: Soviets Ousted

PARIS — The French government expelled from France twelve members of a Russian military commission. The action followed official accusations that some members of the commission had been working against the "security of the French state." What was unofficially called Soviet retaliation to this order was contained in a statement issued by the Moscow radio. It announced that trade negotiations between France and Russia, with the objective of exchanging French machinery for Soviet wheat, had been called off.

صكذا من الأصل

OPINION/LETTERS

Tough, Smart Women, Working to Better Iran

By Catherine O'Neill

TEHRAN — Somehow I had always felt that women who adopted the chador had shut me out. That black cloak seemed a way of saying: "Don't approach! My values are different."

A recent visit to Iran has proved how wrong I was. It also has taught me something about not imposing my values on tough, smart women who are working to make changes in their country.

At the invitation of Unicef, I went to Tehran to attend a conference on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The conference was organized by a group of Iranian women who want to change some of Iran's laws affecting children and women.

Almost no non-Iranians were present in the hotel ballroom as several hundred chador-clad women, and some men, discussed, debated and criticized aspects of Iran's laws.

One speaker criticized Iranian companies that profit from cheap child labor.

Another talked about the illogic of a 30-year-old woman professor's being unable to choose a spouse without the approval of a father or grandfather — while a 15-year-old boy needs no approval to get married.

Speakers noted Iran's effective village health care programs, universal immunization for children and the high percentage of girls and boys attending school.

But the speakers wanted more for Iran's children and women.

During breaks, women approached me to talk. They were doctors, lawyers, teachers, psychologists, professors, child education experts and mothers. We cared about the same things: drug abuse among young people, child custody issues, child abuse, juvenile delinquency, homeless children, foster care and child labor.

I thought about a Los Angeles Times article that I had read on the plane to Tehran. It was accompanied by photographs of California mothers injecting themselves with heroin while their children sat on their laps. Drunken and drugged fathers send their daughters to bed hungry because it is too "dangerous" for them to walk to a nearby soup kitchen for supper.

As I listened to the Iranian women, I realized that we Americans have no reason to be smug about how we care for our children.

Another reason we cannot be smug is that the United States and Somalia are the only two countries in the world that have not ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In Iran, I also realized how the uniformity of the chador is a way of uniting women. There are no clothes to separate the sophisticated, educated urban elite from deeply religious rural women. All Iranian women, in public, are dressed the same.

In central Iran I had lunch with some young teachers and librarians from a village. They had been babies at the time of the Iranian revolution and had never been to Tehran. Two were engaged to be married and asked about wedding practices in the United States.

When they picked their husbands, they said, they had sought men with good religious values who would make a good living. They also said that men's looks were not so important because looks fade.

Schoolgirls in mosques asked to have their pictures taken with me.

In a gynecologist's office, where chador-clad women waited their turn, the woman doctor said she performed in-vitro fertilizations.

In a restaurant, a group of women encouraged me to try the water pipe.

My experiences in Iran should not be so rare for Americans. A new generation has arrived and almost two decades have passed since the hostage crisis of 1979-80. The United States is the only major power with no contact with Iran. But the Iranian people have given a signal: They voted in a new president against the recommendations of their religious leaders.

It's time for us in the United States to reach out to the 70 million children, men and women in Iran, who, I've found, have much in common with us.

The writer, who serves on the boards of several humanitarian organizations, visited Iran at the invitation of Unicef. She contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Courting Kabila

Regarding "No Free Pass for Kabila" (Editorial, Dec. 1):

The editorial gives U.S. Ambassador Bill Richardson too much credit for the ostensible resolution of the diplomatic impasse between the United Nations and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mr. Richardson got Congo's president, Laurent Kabila, to agree that the investigation would cover alleged human rights violations occurring even after he had assumed power and continuing through the end of this year. Yet it is fair to ask if Mr. Richardson went too far in courting Mr. Kabila.

Mr. Richardson's compromise is fraught with potential pitfalls. The decision to limit the investigation's duration to roughly four months (the scheduled date of completion is Feb. 28, 1998) was far too generous. Congo is a vast country with a minimal infrastructure. It takes days simply to arrive at a site and establish a base from which to conduct an investigation.

Also, by fixing an end date for the investigation without ensuring that the team would first be allowed to deploy in the field, Mr. Richardson gave Mr. Kabila an additional incentive to stall for time. Indeed, almost six weeks passed after the "agreement" was concluded before Mr. Kabila permitted the United Nations to commence its work.

It should come as no surprise that Mr. Kabila finally allowed the UN team to deploy on Dec. 3, right before the international donor community convened a fund-raising conference to aid Congo. The compromise must not be cynically manipulated to serve political expediency and bolster Mr. Kabila at any cost.

E. BERMAN and K. SAMS.
Geneva.

Eric Berman is executive director of UN Watch, where Katie Sams is a fellow.

Inane Lobbyist

Regarding "Lobbyists for Bigger and Better Emissions Question Whether Global Warming Exists" (Dec. 4):

The story about the electricity industry lobbyist who dismisses global warming rang a bell. Didn't another industry proclaim that no scientific evidence linked its product to trouble, in its case lung cancer and heart disease?

At least the tobacco industry did not have the nerve to present its cause as a lonely, heroic fight for the truth. Neither did it come up with such astoundingly infantile analogies as those made by the electricity lobbyist to illustrate the industry's plight: "How many people were following Moses when he started? And there was only one guy saying the Earth was round in the beginning."

STANLEY G. ESKIN.
Bremen, Germany.

Critical France

Regarding "What Sort of Friend Is a Resentful France?" (Opinion, Nov. 28) by Richard Cohen:

It is reassuring to read that Mr. Cohen loves France too much to bomb it, even in a friendly way.

What Mr. Cohen calls a snit has existed for a long time in French-American relations, and references to Lafayette are sometimes hollow. It was Lafayette who wrote: "I never would have drawn my sword in the cause of America if I had known that thereby I was helping to found a nation of slaves."

Let the French criticize whom they want. They are good at it, and we can learn from it.

DAVID WINGEATE PIKE.
Paris.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

AIDS: Just Another Killer In America's Inner Cities

By Bob Herbert

NEW YORK — Nushawn Williams made a brief appearance in Bronx Criminal Court last Thursday. A judge postponed sentencing him on a drug charge pending a psychological evaluation that will take 30 days. Mr. Williams did not say anything during the hearing.

Mr. Williams is the 21-year-old street thug who is believed to have

MEANWHILE

infected at least nine women and young girls with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The ultimate toll from this one-man epidemic will undoubtedly be much higher.

Authorities believe he had unprotected sex with dozens of females, some of them very young.

The Williams story sent a shudder through the nation. But what is most frightening is not what Mr. Williams is alleged to have done — deliberately expose his sex partners to the virus — but that the virus is being transmitted to so many poor and ignorant young people in very similar ways.

Nushawn Williams is not nearly the aberration that we would like to think. And young people, especially marginalized young people from poverty-stricken backgrounds, are not well-prepared to protect themselves against that kind of menace.

"AIDS education as we've done it traditionally is basically a failure," said S. J. Avery, the director of Bronx AIDS Services.

"People are still engaging in high-risk behavior," she said. "We have a huge problem getting people to take it seriously. For many young people in the Bronx, the threat of AIDS is part of a whole constellation of problems that they have to deal with. I think it adds to their sense of fatalism. AIDS is just another one of the things that is likely to get you."

Ms. Avery and her colleagues, in a series of interviews last week, talked about children and adolescents whose families have fallen apart, who frequently are exposed to the dangers of violent crime and illegal drugs and who seldom, if ever, have enough money.

"HIV and AIDS is not the big picture in their lives," said Diana Caraballo, the senior educator for Bronx AIDS Services. "It is not as important as having food on the table, clothes on their backs. You put a 13-, 14- or 15-year-old girl in that situation and a guy with a nice car, money and jewelry comes along and she will have unprotected sex."

Ms. Avery said she believed there was very little difference between some of the girls she sees in the Bronx and the young women and girls believed to have been infected by Nushawn Williams in upstate Chautauqua County. Poor and with little to look forward to, they are vulnerable to a guy who comes along and makes them feel good.

"I can tell you what happens," Ms. Avery said. "The guy comes up and says, 'Hello,' and they hear him say, 'I love you.'"

There is little question that large numbers of men and boys continue to have unprotected sex after learning that they are infected with HIV. Some are filled with conscious or unconscious rage. Others simply care nothing at all about their partners. And many are in deep denial about their own health and what they are doing to others.

Said Ms. Caraballo: "We see a lot of kids who know their status but don't believe it because they are not yet sick. They continue to have sex. A boy will say: 'I tested positive but I ain't gonna use a condom. I'm not sick. And besides, I ain't gonna marry her.'"

Very little attention is being paid to all of this. The daily life of kids in the inner city, where AIDS is spreading fastest, is not considered good copy. Who cares?

Stacey Strother, who handles AIDS issues for the Bronx borough president, may be correct when, speaking of the vulnerability of young women, she says, "If you have low self-esteem you are not likely to negotiate safer sex."

But the self-esteem of poor youngsters is a subject that draws yawns at best from the vast majority of Americans.

AIDS does not occur in a vacuum. With no cure and no vaccine at hand, the only way to defeat it is to link prevention efforts to an attack on the many other problems that are undermining the lives of young people.

At the moment, there is little chance of that happening.

The New York Times

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INTERNATIONAL

Fractured Politics Continue to Cloud Prospects for Indian Economic Reform

By John F. Burns
New York Times Service

NEW DELHI — With elections set for early next year, India faces a bleak prospect: a second vote in just two years in which a fractured electorate seems unlikely to give any party or combination of parties enough support to provide the bold government many Indians say the country needs.

The election could take an unexpected turn, producing a strong showing by one of the three main political blocs that split the outgoing Parliament. But most opinion polls suggest that the pattern set in an election 20 months ago is likely to be repeated: a vote that produces no parliamentary majority, nor anything close.

If so, India could be in for more years of indecisive coalition government and continued wavering on the economy. This would mean that India in 1998 would be still tussling with an issue that many hoped had been settled back in 1991, when Rajiv Gandhi's assassination during an election campaign produced an unexpected victory for the Congress (I) Party and an even more unexpected break with the policies of the past.

The new prime minister then, P. V. Narasimha Rao, was a Congress Party veteran associated with a deadening brand of socialism introduced by Jawaharlal Nehru, the first prime minister after independence. But when he took office and found India close to default on $90 billion in foreign debt, he scrapped the Nehru blueprint and opened India to foreign investment and competition.

Many Indians say that the early success of Mr. Rao's reforms depended on having a powerful government capable of pushing through its policies, just as Congress governments had done in an earlier era. But because those early Congress policies were widely seen as having failed and, many Indians say, because the governing system Britain bequeathed India in 1947 was too centralized for a country with a myriad of regions, languages, ethnic groups and religions, the political system was in crisis by 1991, with a multitude of new groups fighting for power.

In the 1996 election, these splinter groups made major inroads, mostly at the expense of a Congress Party that had become so venal that a dozen of its ministers are now on trial or under investigation for corruption. Some Congress votes flowed to these smaller groups. Others went to the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, which emerged from the elections with the largest bloc in Parliament.

The Congress Party won the second-largest number of seats, with most of the rest going to an array of regional and leftist groups that came together after the 1996 election in a new formation known as the United Front. It governed for the last 18 months, with the capricious backing of a Congress Party that seemed unable to decide whether to rebuild, or to elbow aside the United Front and grab power for itself.

The United Front coalition proved unstable, with the government of Inder Kumar Gujral collapsing on Nov. 28. Both he and his United Front predecessor, H. D. Deve Gowda, never succeeded in curbing factionalism in their cabinets, especially on economic policy.

An economic slowdown that had begun under Mr. Rao worsened as the government dithered over steps to modernize labor laws, remove barriers to foreign investment and tackle government corruption. Few Indians see the coming election as providing any solution. The Congress Party almost split during the maneuvering that preceded the election call Thursday, with dozens of its members of Parliament negotiating secretly to join the nationalists.

Many Indians believe that support among professional and upper-caste groups would lend the Hindu nationalists an efficiency lacking in recent governments. The nationalists will be backed by some of India's largest businesses, which are wary of foreign competition and favor nationalist economic policies that would include at least a modest rollback of the economic reforms.

But the nationalists face acute wariness among lower-caste Indians who account for a majority of the 600 million voters, among non-Hindi-speaking Hindus in southern India, and among India's 120 million Muslims.

Some think that the United Front could return to office for the same reason that it prospered in the 1996 election: the growing tendency of voters to favor parties representing sectional or local interests. For the first time, the United Front will campaign under a single banner, but without a clear candidate for prime minister.

Witness Tells of Biko's Torment at Police Hands

The Associated Press

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa — A former policeman, Jacobus Beneke, told Tuesday how he stood guard over a beaten, chained Steve Biko but never wiped the blood off the activist or sought medical help for him.

The testimony before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission provided more details of the final days of Mr. Biko, a black consciousness leader and one of South Africa's leading anti-apartheid heroes when he died in police detention in 1977 at age 30.

Mr. Beneke, 48, is one of five former security policemen seeking amnesty in the Biko killing.

He described how Mr. Biko, injured and semiconscious from an assault during a police interrogation, was chained crucifixion style to a gate and left standing for hours.

"I saw that he was standing there with open staring eyes and seemed he was not aware of what was going on," Mr. Beneke said.

Although Mr. Beneke thought Mr. Biko should get medical care, he took no steps to clean the blood off Mr. Biko's face or treat other injuries. A doctor who examined Mr. Biko the next day found his head injuries had caused incontinence that left Mr. Biko's clothes soaked in urine.

Mr. Beneke stared down when George Bizos, a lawyer representing the Biko family, accused the policemen of beating Mr. Biko and letting him suffer out of hatred.

"May I suggest it was evidence of the utter contempt of Mr. Biko as a human being and pure hatred for him" that led to such negligence, Mr. Bizos said.

The officers have testified that Mr. Biko's death was unintentional, resulting from a scuffle after Mr. Biko refused to stand during an interrogation.

Mr. Bizos, who also represented the Biko family at a 1977 inquest that absolved the police of responsibility in the killing, called that story a lie.

"Isn't it that you and your colleagues decided on the morning of Sept. 6 that you were going to teach him a lesson and punch out of him that a black man should have the cheek to think he was as good as a white person?" Mr. Bizos asked.

Howard Burditt/Reuters

ZIMBABWE PROTEST — Riot police Tuesday arrested the Catholic Commissioner for Justice and Peace, Mike Auret, left center, and his son in Harare, the capital, as the two participated in an anti-tax protest. They were later released. An estimated 150,000 workers around the country staged demonstrations against the imposition by President Robert Mugabe's government of a new tax package.

Islamic Group in Egypt Seems Split as Tourist Truce Is Denied

Reuters

CAIRO — The largest Islamic militant group in Egypt appears to be split between supporters and opponents of a truce with the government, sparking fears of a schism that could produce more violence, diplomats and Islamic sources said Tuesday.

Two statements — one Monday vowing to halt attacks on foreign tourists and a second Tuesday denying that such a decision had been made — were issued in the name of the Islamic Group, the terrorist group that claimed responsibility for the massacre of 58 tourists in Luxor last month.

The Islamic Group "confirms that it has not issued" the statement Monday to stop targeting foreign tourists "and has nothing to do with it," said a statement issued Tuesday.

Sources said that the schism, which began to surface in July following a truce call by imprisoned leaders of the group, could produce more violent acts, like the one that killed the foreigners in Luxor.

Montasser Zayyat, a lawyer known for his contacts with the group's leaders, said that the two statements reflected a deep crisis in the group.

"Monday's statement was issued by the Osama Rushdi team," Mr. Zayyat said. Mr. Rushdi, the group's media official, lives in the Netherlands. "Tuesday's was issued by Refaei Ahmed Taha," he continued, referring to an Islamic Group leader who is said to live in Afghanistan.

A Western diplomat said that the contradictory statements showed that the group was clearly fragmented both inside and outside Egypt.

Analysts said that splinter units in Egypt could carry out even more violent attacks than the Luxor massacre. "One of the consequences of an organization's having splintered is that it is easier for groups to carry out operations at their own initiatives," a diplomat said.

Security sources said that Islamic Group units in the south of Egypt were working independently of their political leadership in what the sources described as "a military coup."

TRAINS: *With New Rail Line, Europe Moves Onto the Fast Track*

Continued from Page 1

In June last year, the opening of a high-speed line from Paris to the Belgian frontier cut travel time between Paris and Brussels to one hour and 58 minutes from about three hours on conventional trains and track. The further reduction in journey time is made possible by the completion of the track from the frontier to the southern Gare du Midi station in Brussels, where a new terminal has been built to accommodate the sleek red-and-gray trains.

The bad news for travelers between Paris and Brussels is an average 7 percent increase in fares. But Westrail International, the joint company operating the trains in France and Belgium, promises an improved standard of service and food on board.

The new high-speed track runs through open countryside in Wallonia from a point just south of Lille, where it links with the high-speed line running toward the Channel Tunnel and London.

Sections of the conventional track between Brussels and the Netherlands and between Brussels and Germany are being upgraded to permit the trains to operate at higher speeds.

The Thalys service will reduce travel time between Paris and Amsterdam to three hours and 15 minutes from four hours and 12 minutes; and between Paris and Cologne to three hours and 10 minutes from four hours and 2 minutes. Planners said this would make the service competitive with air travel, taking into account the time spent traveling to airports and checking in.

The journey times will be shortened once planned track improvements are completed in 2002, reinforcing the position of Brussels as a European transport hub. The completion of the system will link Brussels to Amsterdam in one hour and 41 minutes and to Cologne in one hour and 45 minutes.

Like the Eurostar service linking Paris, Brussels and London through the Channel Tunnel, the Thalys service is part of a major effort by the European Union to upgrade railroads throughout the continent and protect the environment by reducing dependence on the automobile.

The idea of linking Europe with a network of high-speed trains dates back to 1983. The 1994 European summit conference in Essen, Germany, approved a series of road and rail networks and other transportation infrastructure aimed at bolstering the European single market and building greater economic strength for the next century.

The philosophy of the European Commission, the EU's executive body, is to seek to overcome the national bias in transportation planning and to encourage governments to develop links across borders.

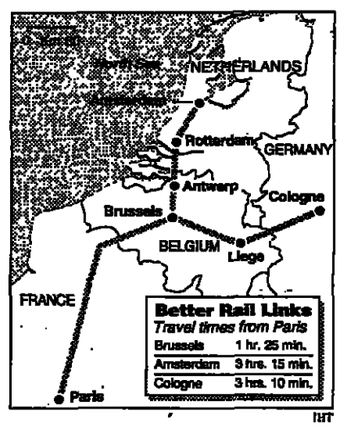
The new Paris-Brussels service is a big step in this direction because it is the first service to link two capitals entirely by high-speed track.

About 80 percent of the 92 billion Ecus ($102 billion) earmarked for trans-European transport networks is being spent on developing railroads, while only 10 percent is destined purely for road construction.

The Thalys service is an engineering feat not only because of the highly automated track but also because of the complexity of the trains, built in France by GEC Alsthom. The trains, each with a capacity of 377 seats, can operate on the different power systems of the participating countries without interruption. Each train consists of two motor units and eight passenger cars.

Since the Thalys service was introduced in 1996, passenger traffic has increased 45 percent. According to SNCF, the share of trains in all traffic between France and Belgium, including air and road, has increased to 40 percent from 24 percent in 1994.

Although the word Thalys evokes the muse of poetry, the word was invented by a Dutch-Belgian design company, Total Design, to be easily recognized and easily pronounced in all the countries served by the train.



IHT

Nigerian Dissident Dies in Custody

The Associated Press

LAGOS — A former vice president who was serving a 25-year prison term for allegedly plotting to overthrow the military junta was buried Tuesday after dying in custody, state radio reported.

General Shehu Musa Yar'Adua, who was arrested in a March 1995 sweep along with scores of other activists, died Monday in a hospital in the western city of Ibadan. He was 54.

Radio in Kaduna state, where Ibadan is located, did not give a cause of death, saying only that General Yar'Adua had been rushed to the Ibadan hospital from his jail cell for an undisclosed reason.

General Yar'Adua, a charismatic politician, won the presidential primaries in 1989 — only to have the elections canceled by the military authorities.

He was one of more than 40 people seized in March 1995 after General Sani Abacha's government announced it had foiled a coup plot. A tribunal convicted General Yar'Adua of conspiring to overthrow General Abacha and sentenced him to death, but after international protests, the sentence was reduced to 25 years in prison.

BRITAIN: *A Transformation in Progress*

Continued from Page 1

As demonstrated by the outpouring of grief over the death of Diana, Princess of Wales — and the more recent uproar over the trial in Massachusetts of a British au pair, Louise Woodward — this is a country prepared to show its emotions more openly than in the past. It is more informal — Mr. Blair typifies this by insisting that his aides refer to him as Tony — and less deferential toward authority. Radio call-in shows that encourage people to speak their minds are growing in popularity.

"There is a much greater questioning of institutions than there has been for a very long time," said the Reverend Nigel McCulloch, bishop of Wakefield. "This affects the monarchy; it affects the church. People question the authority of members of Parliament in ways they never did before."

In some ways, Britain seems to have been down this path before — three decades ago during the "Swinging '60s" of the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Carnaby Street and the miniskirt. The pervasive youth culture of the day stretched the social fabric. But that receded, leaving Britain's major institutions largely unchanged and the country still searching for its post-imperial place in the world.

That history is the reason even those in the middle of helping define the Britain of today sometimes have trouble separating the permanent from the faddish.

"Maybe it is just going to be the Swinging '60s again and will die out," a senior adviser to the prime minister said. "But I think it is different. I think we'll find out what we're about and how we define ourselves."

His uncertainty is understandable, given the ebb and flow of fashion and opinion here. Three months ago, in the days after Diana's death, there was talk that the monarchy might not last much longer, that Queen Elizabeth II would be forced to abdicate, that Prince Charles would never be king.

Today, Diana's death seems almost a distant memory. Charles appears liberated as a single parent and has been the beneficiary of glowing press coverage for his interest in charitable works and a more relaxed attitude toward the media. The celebration of Queen Elizabeth's 50th wedding anniversary last month was a virtual love-in for the monarchy.

The royal biographer Ben Pimlott says that what has come out of the Diana episode is not that the monarchy should go, "but a concern for the royal family and a desire to help them help themselves" to change.

Mr. Blair, too, has learned how quickly impressions can change. In the first months after his government took over in May, he and his Labour Party — "New Labour," in Mr. Blair's vernacular — were lionized as a vivid and fresh contrast to the pallid Conservative Party that had ruled Britain for 18 years.

Today, Mr. Blair's long honeymoon has come to an end, the victim of a collision between the rhetoric of campaigning and the reality of governing. He remains extraordinarily popular with the public, but there are many more critics who question whether New Labour is more style than substance.

Still, it is quite likely that when historians look back, Mr. Blair's landslide victory and the convulsive effect of Diana's death will be seen as catalysts for continuing change.

Mr. Clarke of Cambridge University argues that looking back to before Margaret Thatcher's regime, Britain already is vastly different. But it is even clearer today that the economic changes instituted by Prime Minister Thatcher left the country yearning for accompanying social and political change.

That in no way diminishes the significance of what Mrs. Thatcher did. When she came to power in 1979, Britain was "the sick man of Europe" economically. Today, Britain has the healthiest economy of any of the major European nations, and its strength in such consumer-led industries as filmmaking, entertainment, music and design ensures that Britain will influence tastes and habits far beyond its borders.

But Martin Jacques, a writer and former editor of the journal Marxism Today, believes the Thatcher-led revolution that denationalized much of the economy left Britain awkwardly balanced between old and new.

"Thatcher embraced economic change and modernity," he said, "but to keep the nation in check, she asserted the old constitutional arrangements and an old Victorian cultural identity. The tensions became clear."

Struggling for expression, he said, was a different Britain, one with more ethnic and racial diversity, more open with its emotions and less defined by the class structure of the past. Diana's death crystallized these changes, in effect defining a new Britain that had been taking shape for some time. "It told us something about where we were, and, in doing so, it changed the country," Mr. Jacques said. "It told us we were different."

Equally important in redefining Britain are the constitutional and political reforms begun by Mr. Blair's government, which could do as much to alter the face of Britain as Mrs. Thatcher's reforms did in the 1980s.

The agenda includes devolving power to the disparate entities that make up the United Kingdom, from Scotland and Wales to Northern Ireland and possibly the regions of England itself. It also envisions potentially significant changes in the House of Lords to reduce its hereditary power and a new proportional voting system that could permanently alter the balance of power among the major political parties. There also is widespread support for enactment of a bill of rights and a freedom of information act.

The year 1997 also may be remembered as the year Britain embarked on a new relationship with its European partners, another sharp contrast with Mrs. Thatcher and the Conservatives, who went in the opposite direction. Mr. Blair's embrace has been cautious — more rhetorical than actual — but he is working to cement relations with Western Europe's other leading powers, France and Germany. On issues ranging from Europe to domestic policy, however, analysts such as Mr. Stedman Jones, the Cambridge historian, question whether Mr. Blair will be bold or radical enough to make good on these changes in the making.

"I'm loath to think he doesn't have any longer-term vision of what a new Britain could be, but there are disconcerting signs that he doesn't," Mr. Stedman Jones said.

"They are heading something significant," he continued, "but I'm not sure they're fully aware of what they're heading."

Yannis Behrakis/Reuters

A woman in white from an African Islamic country sitting among Iranian women during the Islamic summit in Tehran on Tuesday.

Israeli Group of Farm Experts Visits Iran

Agence France-Presse

JERUSALEM — Iran played host to 16 Israeli agricultural experts as part of an effort to rekindle economic ties with the Jewish state, Israel radio reported Tuesday.

The visit by nongovernment experts was organized with the help of an Israeli group that facilitates ties with Arab states and German officials who passed on an invitation from an unofficial Iranian farm group, the radio said.

The report, which quoted members of the Israeli group, did not give the dates of the visit.

The Israeli delegation met the deputy agriculture minister of Iran and provided advice on fertilization, irrigation and the establishment of farms to improve wheat and cotton production.

After the visit, Iranian economic officials in Germany informed Israeli officials that they wanted to pursue economic cooperation, the radio said.

Most of the recent Israeli-Iranian contacts have been coordinated through Germany, the organization told the radio.

The Islamic regime that toppled the Shah and seized power in Iran in 1979 immediately broke off relations with Israel and has refused to recognize the Jewish state's right to exist.

SUMMIT: *Iran's Leaders Air Differences*

Continued from Page 1

leader, and Crown Prince Abdullah ibn Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia, the highest ranking Saudi official to visit Iran since the fall of the American-backed shah in 1979.

Arab turnout, in fact, is much higher than for the U.S.-sponsored economic conference held last month in Doha, Qatar, with the aim of forging ties between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Most Arab countries boycotted that conference to protest what they regard as the failure of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel to implement peace accords signed with the Palestinians.

Iran has sought to make the most of the international spotlight, welcoming its guests in a massive press conference hall overflowing with hibiscus flowers and ringed with the flags of participating nations. Foreign envoys, some in native Arab or African dress, sat in a semicircle facing the dais and several large video screens.

Despite the broad cross-section of participants, Ayatollah Khamenei made no effort to temper his hard-line views, blaming the West for most of the ills afflicting the Muslim world.

"The Western materialistic civilization is directing everyone toward materiality, while money, gluttony and carnal desires are made the greatest aspirations," he said. "As in the past, today Islam is the only remedial, curative and savior angel."

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DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

BERNARDO BLATT, et al.
Plaintiffs,
-against-
MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED, et al.
Defendants.

Hon. Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr., U.S.D.J.

Civil No. 94-2348 (JAG)

SUMMARY NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION, PROPOSED SETTLEMENT, AND SETTLEMENT HEARING

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This Summary Notice is given pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and an Order of the United States District Court of the District of New Jersey dated October 15, 1997. The purpose of this Notice is to inform you of the pendency of a class action (the "Action") and the proposed settlement (the "Settlement") of the claims asserted against defendants in the Action for $50 million in cash and 540 million in coupons (which may be converted to cash at 50% of their face value) plus $1.5 million in administrative expenses (the "Settlement Fund"). A hearing will be held on March 4, 1998 at 9:00 a.m. before the Honorable Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr. of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey (the "Court"), in Courtroom 4C, United States Courthouse, 50 Walnut Street, Newark, New Jersey 07101. The purpose of the hearing will be, among other things: (1) to determine whether the proposed Settlement should be approved by the Court as fair, reasonable and adequate and whether the Action should be dismissed with prejudice as to all defendants; and (2) to consider the award to plaintiffs' counsel of attorneys' fees and expenses incurred in prosecuting the Action.

If you purchased shares of either the Merrill Lynch Short-Term Global Fund, Inc. or the Merrill Lynch World Income Fund Portfolio during the Class period (and are neither a defendant nor related to or affiliated with any defendant) you are a member of the Class. Your rights against defendants will be affected by this Settlement unless you file a request for exclusion. The Court will exclude you from the Class if you request exclusion in writing by January 26, 1998. If you request exclusion, you will not be allowed to share in the Settlement Fund. If you wish to share in the Settlement Fund and otherwise participate in the benefits of the Settlement, you must submit an Address Form no later than April 6, 1998 unless you currently are a client of Merrill Lynch. If you currently are a client of Merrill Lynch, then you need not return an Address Form because Merrill Lynch has waived the Address Form for its current clients. If you do not request exclusion, you may enter an appearance through counsel. IF YOU ARE NOT CURRENTLY A MERRILL LYNCH CLIENT YOU MUST EITHER (1) TIMELY SUBMIT A PROPER ADDRESS FORM, OR (2) EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT, OR ELSE YOU WILL NOT *SHARE IN THE SETTLEMENT FUND, BUT YOU WILL BE BOUND BY THE FINAL JUDGMENT OF THE* COURT, INCLUDING THE RELEASE OF CLAIMS AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS. If you believe that you are a member of the Class described above and have not already received a copy of the detailed Notice of Class Action, Proposed Settlement, and Settlement Hearing, you may obtain such information by contacting either of the following Class Counsel.

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600 West Broadway, Suite 1100
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LOVELL & STEWART, LLP
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Alternatively, the Settlement Administrator can be reached at (800) 758-2265 for U.S. calls or (941) 906-9173 for overseas calls. You may also write the Settlement Administrator at the following address:

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All Address Forms are due no later than April 6, 1998; any objections to the settlement or to the request of plaintiffs and Class Counsel for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses and compensation to plaintiffs are due no later than January 30, 1998; and any requests to be excluded from the Class are due no later than January 26, 1998, as specified in the Notice.

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November 1997

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TOMORROW: HEALTH/SCIENCE

The Rebirth Of a Virtuoso: Perahia Is Back

By Anthony Tommasini
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Murray Perahia is back in commission, very busy and greatly relieved. For five years, Perahia, who turned 50 in April, was plagued by a finger injury that threatened to end his career as a pianist. There were rumors of carpal tunnel syndrome, which he denied. Even before the injury, some had begun to suggest that Perahia was drifting, that one of the most gifted pianists of his generation, esteemed for his elegance, authority and sensitivity, was making ill-considered forays into virtuoso repertory urged on him by Vladimir Horowitz.

Moreover, at a time of crisis in the classical-music world, when the continual replaying of the standard repertory was making concert music seem dusty and irrelevant to many, Perahia was an unapologetic traditionalist.

But he has recovered in more ways than one. Doubts about his pianistic health were largely quashed by a well-received recital at Carnegie Hall last April. Any lingering doubts should be cleared up by his latest Sony recording, in which he plays Schumann's "Kreisleriana" and Sonata No. 1 with impressive command, color and spontaneity.

Perahia will end an extensive American recital tour next Sunday at Avery Fisher Hall. Getting back on track has been an ordeal.

"For a while I was in despair," Perahia, who was born in the Bronx and now lives in England, said recently at his Manhattan hotel. "But in the end, it gave me a kind of inner strength that I probably would not have had without the setback. They say that suffering brings growth, but going through it, you don't feel that way."

The injury started with an innocuous paper cut on his right thumb in 1991. Perahia was recording Schubert's "Winterreise" with the baritone Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau in Berlin. When he ignored the cut, his thumb swelled badly.

"The doctor told me it was infected and gave me antibiotics," he said. "Within three days it was fine. I went back to normal activity, recording some Mozart concertos with the Berlin Philharmonic. But the antibiotic made me really sick, so I stopped taking it. I didn't complete my course."

Years of trouble followed. The swelling returned, to the point that his thumb was pulled out of alignment. He underwent exploratory surgery. For a brief period three years ago, he could play satisfactorily.

Then the problem returned. Doctors finally determined that a bone spur had emerged, possibly a result of an unrelated infection 16 years earlier. An operation in September 1996 fixed the problem, though for months afterward, he was cautious about what he performed.

"The worst time was after that nine-month period of playing, when the problem seemed to be coming back for good," he said. "Luckily, I had my family."

Early in his career, Perahia was painfully awkward on stage and in person. Julius Levine, a bassist and a renowned chamber-music coach, remembers him as one of "three outstanding young pianists of the day" at the Marlboro Festival in Vermont during the late 1960s, with Richard Goode and Peter Serkin. But Perahia was notably self-critical.

"You know how most musicians can't sleep the night before a big recital?" Levine asked. "Murray wouldn't sleep the night after a big recital. It was not a pose. Yet he had a matter-of-fact confidence in his abilities. He didn't make a big deal of it, but he didn't doubt it."

His mentors include diametric opposites. After finishing a program in conducting and composition at the Mannes School of Music, Perahia took private lessons from the Polish-born pianist Mieczyslaw Horszowski. Then, in the 1980s, he befriended Horowitz.

Horszowski was a link to the great Classical tradition; he had studied with Leschetizky, who had studied with Czerny, who had studied with Beethoven. Horowitz was the consummate Russian Romantic virtuoso. But both, Perahia said, believed in expressive freedom.

Perahia may have been the last to hear Horowitz play. On the night before he died, in 1989, Horowitz regaled the visiting Perahia with Liszt, including the harmonically exploratory variations on the Bach theme "Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen." He played exquisitely, Perahia said, then closed the piano lid.

"Enough for tonight," Perahia quoted him as saying. "You come back tomorrow. I want to talk with you about the Brahms B flat Concerto, which has always perplexed me. I have some ideas about the slow movement."

THE next morning, Perahia got a call from Horowitz's housekeeper reporting that the maestro was ill. When he arrived by cab Horowitz was already dead.

Perahia acknowledges that he was strongly influenced at the time by Horowitz's repertory. But working on Liszt and Rachmaninoff with Horowitz, he adds, was a great experience, which enriched him as an artist. "If you want to be more than a virtuoso, first be a virtuoso," Horowitz told him, he said. "I decided I would do that. I don't regret it."

Marc Geller/The New York Times

"For a while I was in despair," Perahia says.

2-Lid Piano Hits Sour Note

By Anthony Tommasini
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The image of a gleaming ebony grand piano on a concert hall stage, its lid propped open by a thin black stick, is fixed in the mind of every classical music lover. But for the first time in a century and a half, the basic design of the piano is being challenged by a curious-looking, controversial and potentially transforming invention: the lower lid.

The innovation is the brainchild of Daniell Revenaugh, a 63-year-old pianist, conductor and sometime inventor in Berkeley, California. The lower lid designed by Revenaugh is attached to the rear underside of the piano and rests on the floor. Visually, it mirrors the traditional upper lid, and serves the same purpose: to capture and project sound outward.

Leading pianists, including Andre Watts, Peter Serkin and Martha Argerich have performed at major concert halls using a piano with a lower lid, which Watts called a "wonderful advance and improvement to the piano sound."

When Serkin first heard Revenaugh demonstrate his lower lid on a piano at Lincoln Center here, he thought the inventor was cheating. "I thought he was playing with more sound on the piano when the lid was in place. But he wasn't. The difference was remarkable."

Yet though they all wanted to, none of these artists were able to use the additional lower lid at Carnegie Hall, whose administrators have refused, so far, to allow it. "The piano has developed over time; maybe it's time for the piano to develop again," observed Judith Arron, the executive and artistic director of Carnegie Hall. But she added, "I am not going to let a new invention come into this hall for one of our presentations before it has been properly tested."

Whatever the certifiable merits of the lower lid, Carnegie Hall's policy raises a much larger question of who determines whether an adaptation to an artist's instrument represents an improvement: the artist or a concert hall administrator?

Carnegie Hall appears to be the only hall that has demanded some sort of testing before allowing Revenaugh's augmented piano to be played. The others have left the decision of choice of instrument with the artists, whether they could cite acoustic improvements or not. The Chamber Society of Lincoln Center even held a news conference two years ago to announce Serkin's performance on the Revenaugh piano at Alice Tully Hall.

"I really think the lid is kind of fun," said Serkin, a pianist esteemed for his intelligence and sense of musical adventure. "I truly feel it has value. So why can't I use it?"

Carnegie Hall has refused to allow the instrument in recitals.

Some who have heard a piano with a lower lid in demonstration have not been as struck by the results as Serkin. Harold Schonberg, the former chief music critic of The New York Times, who was at Carnegie Hall in the fall of 1994 on one of the two occasions when Revenaugh was given permission to informally demonstrate his lid there, reports that he could not really tell the difference. "I thought the effect might be psychological," he said. "A lot of what people hear has to do with psychoacoustics: Do you hear a difference because you want to? Of course, it's impossible to know what it sounds like to the pianist playing."

But regardless of the lid's effectiveness, the Carnegie Hall policy has affected the ability of Revenaugh to promote his invention, for which he holds the patent. "No important piano manufacturer is going to align themselves with a product the use of which is forbidden at our nation's premiere concert hall," Revenaugh said in a telephone interview recently.

If it catches on, the lower lid would be the first significant adaptation of the grand piano since the introduction of the cast-iron inner frame in 1825; it made possible the use of thicker metal strings that could produce more sound than the thinner metal strings that had been standard for inner frames made of wood.

The idea of Revenaugh's invention is so simple it is surprising that no one had thought to try it before. The piano is like a big iron-framed harp, laid on its side, ringed by a wood case, but open on top. When the hammers strike the strings, the sound produced is collected by the propped-open upper lid, focused and projected outward toward the audience.

The underside of the piano is also open, except for some wood crossbeams. Revenaugh's lower lid is intended to collect, focus and project the sound that normally gets diffused under the piano.

As a musician, Revenaugh may be best known for conducting the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra on the landmark first recording of the Busoni Piano Concerto with John Ogdon as soloist in 1968. But inventing things has been another interest, and some of his inventions are eccentric, like the talking pill, a dissolving tablet that makes the sounds of words when it is dropped into water. "It's sort of a cross between Alka-Seltzer and 'Mission Impossible,'" Revenaugh said.

The lower lid, however, say pianists who advocate it, is a perfectly sensible innovation. The lid is made, essentially, of carbon graphite, which is a material that came from research for the space program and which Revenaugh says reflects sound better than wood. A carbon graphite lid is also lighter, only 11 pounds (5 kilograms), as opposed to the wood lid's 42 pounds. But it is expensive: about $3,000, though that cost could come down significantly if a manufacturer were to get involved.

Hard Times Come to Elsinore

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — We all know the economic struggles of the Royal Shakespeare Company, but this is getting ridiculous; a new Barbican "Hamlet" with no Fortinbras, no Bernardo, no Marcellus, only one Gravedigger and real-life "Citizens of London" brought in at presumably nonunion rates to flesh out a mysteriously empty court. At this rate we shall soon be getting "The One Gentleman of Verona" and "Prince Lear," but I note the company is making no corresponding reduction in its ticketing prices.

So what, apart from the cuts (which bring the show in at three hours rather than the usual four), does Matthew

LONDON THEATER

Warchus's new production have to offer? Modern dress for a start; the prince wanders around the party celebrating Claudius's all-too-rapid wedding to Hamlet's mother with a camera taking mug shots of the guests, and by the time it comes for Polonius to die he does so by the bullet rather than the sword.

From the opening and closing home movies of Hamlet's happy childhood through to the kind of "goodnight sweet prince" ending once much favored by old Edwardian actor-managers who didn't want some upstart Fortinbras ruining their big death scene, Warchus has cut, rearranged and sometimes just messed up the text. All occasions do not inform against this Hamlet, for the simple reason that this great soliloquy has disappeared altogether, unlike most of the others, which just suffer severe internal cuts.

Warchus has, I suspect, seen rather too many of the Shakespearean movies that have lately been pouring out of Hollywood and elsewhere. But whereas Sam Mendes's recent "Othello" at the National was a brilliant attempt to convert the closet style of Orson Welles to a staging that still managed neither to lose nor to betray any of the original text, this "Hamlet" seems gimmicky and barren of any real emotion. Nor is there much

Clive Barda

Alex Jennings in "Hamlet."

Gertrude seems to draw back from the proceedings as far as she decently and understandably can, and the rest of the cast is, as usual with the RSC these days, more of an undercast.

So there is no engagement here, no involvement; instead of persuading local citizens to swell out their ranks, the company would do well to recruit a few professional actors who can handle the verse with at least some of the authority so lacking in a frenetic but ramshackle gallop through the text. Only Edward Petherbridge, doubling the Player King with a cocktail-party Ghost, seems to have any real command of the tragedy.

The irony is that Shakespeare becomes most relevant to our times when, as in the recent close-up Ian Holm "King Lear" at the National, we get to hear the whole text with all its subtleties and contradictions and psychological insights. Here we get caricatures rather than characters, and an already diffuse plot becomes largely incomprehensible when taken at this pace.

At the Hampstead, Stephen Churchett's "**Heritage**" has predictably been savaged for its old-fashioned virtues; this is a touching, elegiac play about an attempt to turn part of the gardens of the Chelsea Pensioners' Hospital in London into an underground car park and convention center, but Churchett uses that slender thread of plot to sketch in the family of one of the pensioners. There's a gay son, a betrayed daughter, a wandering grandson. Three generations of one veteran soldier's family come together often reluctantly and uneasily to watch the old man die and with him part of his Chelsea heritage.

There are some wonderful performances here, not least from George Cole as the old soldier unwilling to die and Tim Pigott-Smith as his gay, weary son. To suggest that this is the kind of script that would have looked good at the Haymarket in the 1950s is not actually an insult, rather a reaffirmation of the old values of British domestic drama, where the family that stays together is also the one that slays together. Mark Rayment's production is, like the play, subtle, understated and infinitely touching in its weary acceptance of the personal and environmental destruction wrought in the name of progress.

At Jermyn Street, there's a two-character cabaret called "**It Takes Two**" starring Robert Meadmore and Fiona Fullerton, survivors both of the Richard Harris "Camelot" almost 20 years ago. They have considerable charm and strong, clear voices, but their linking script is oddly shaky, and the show itself might look a lot better on board ship or anywhere you could sit at tables to eat and drink. All the same, it's an elegant and civilized cabaret and there are all too few of those around at the moment on either side of the Atlantic.

BOOKS: CRITIC'S CHOICE

By Jonathan Yardley
Washington Post Service

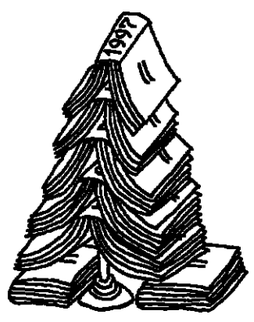
WASHINGTON — The drill come the holidays is to scroll through the year's reviews, fetch out those books that I admired the most, and offer a brief greatest hits list for readers who find such things useful in the shopping season. But before discharging this pleasant obligation, I would like to write four paragraphs about four books published in 1997 that for one reason or another I did not review:

• Rick Bragg, a Southern correspondent for the New York Times, is a son of the hard scrabble Alabama countryside, and he writes the way people in that part of the world talk. This will be a problem for some urban sophisticates who pick up his memoir, "All Over but the Shoutin'," but they are herein advised to stick with it. As James Conaway noted in his perceptive, nuanced review for The Washington Post Book World, Bragg's prose is a strategic device that pays rich dividends, for it permits him to tell his remarkable story — and the even more remarkable story of his mother — in a deeply moving, believable fashion.

• For reasons that surely need no elaboration, I could not review "Personal History," the autobiography of Katharine Graham, the chairman of the board of The Washington Post Co. I began to read it out of a sense of obligation, but read through to the end because its author left me little choice. Most memoirs by men and women who have achieved statesmanlike eminence are dry, aloof and self-congratulatory. This one, though reticent at moments when it is appropriate to be so, is introspective, self-critical, revealing and surprisingly engaging.

• No personal or professional complications prevented me from reviewing John M. Barry's "Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How It Changed America." I just flat-out missed it. The loss was mine. This is a big, ambitious, perceptive and original examination of a momentous event now forgotten by almost everyone except those who know Randy Newman's lovely song "Louisiana 1927" — and most of them probably don't know what the song is really about. The Mississippi flood of that year, as Barry conclusively demonstrates, wasn't just a natural calamity, it was also (figuratively as well as literally) a watershed in American history, one after which neither the South nor the country was ever the same.

• It's hard to imagine a bigger book than "Rising Tide,"



Nicolas Asfouri/IHT

but J. Anthony Lukas's "Big Trouble" is precisely that, a book so big and all-encompassing that it confounds description. It is also a book about which I cannot hope to be totally objective. Tony Lukas was my dear friend and his self-inflicted death in June of this year was one of the greatest losses I have suffered. But I have read "Big Trouble" twice, and have enough distance from it to be able to say, with absolute confidence, that it comes closer than anything since John Dos Passos' "U.S.A." to getting this country into a single book; and "U.S.A.," of course, is actually a trilogy. "Big Trouble" is the story of the murder of a former governor of Idaho at the turn of the century and the astonishing ripple effect that followed it, drawing labor and capital into a raw confrontation and exposing the full extent to which Americans are divided by class. It is a dark book, with many villains and no heroes, and because Tony was the most assiduous researcher imaginable, it takes numerous sidetracks. Be patient, stick with it, give it the time it needs. Like his previous book, "Common Ground," it is an American masterpiece, and for those of us who knew and loved him, it is his everlasting monument.

Among the books that I reviewed this year, I greatly admired a half-dozen works of fiction: "The Actual," by Saul Bellow; "In the Deep Midwinter," by Robert Clark; "Nashville 1864: The Dying of the Light," by Madison Jones; "Publish and Perish: Three Tales of Tenure and Terror," by James Hynes; "A Spanish Lover," by Joanna Trollope; and "The Universal Donor," by Craig Nova. I recommend all with enthusiasm. I did not review the much-discussed new novels by Don DeLillo, Thomas Pynchon and Philip Roth, having developed over the years a lack of sympathy for their work that would render any judgment of mine open to suspicion. Sometimes silence really is golden.

AS for nonfiction, fully a dozen titles of 1997 sailed through here unscathed. In alphabetical order as above, they are: "Burning the Days: Recollections," by James Salter; "Doo-Dah: Stephen Foster and the Rise of American Popular Culture," by Ken Emerson; "The History of Jazz," by Ted Gioia; "Last Days in Cloud Cuckooland: Dispatches from White Africa," by Graham Boynton; "Literature Lost: Social Agendas and the Corruption of the Humanities," by John M. Ellis; "Loitering With Intent: The Apprentice," by Peter O'Toole; "Mutual Contempt: Lyndon Johnson, Robert Kennedy and the Feud That Shaped a Decade," by Jeff Shesol; "My Name Escapes Me: The Diary of a Retiring Actor," by Sir Alec Guinness; "The Only Way I Know," by Cal Ripken Jr. with Mike Bryan; "The Perfect Storm," by Sebastian Junge; "Resident Alien: The New York Diaries," by Quentin Crisp; and "Southern Cross: Beginnings of the Bible Belt," by Christine Leigh Heyrman. Again, enthusiastic recommendations for all.

Twenty-two good books is what we have here, a handful of them downright wonderful. Not a bad year's work.

BEST SELLERS

The New York Times
This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.

FICTION

This Week		Last Weeks	Wks on List
1	COLD MOUNTAIN, by Charles Frazier	3	22
2	THE GHOST, by Danielle Steel	1	3
3	CAT & MOUSE, by Charles Frazier	2	3
4	ANOTHER CITY, NOT MY OWN, by Dominick Dunne	7	2
5	THE LETTER, by Richard Paul Evans	6	6
6	VIOLIN, by Anne Rice	4	6
7	SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST, by Jonathan Kellerman	12	2
8	LUCKY YOU, by Carl Hiaasen	8	4
9	COME THE SPRING, by Julie Garwood	9	3
10	THE MATARESE COUNTDOWN, by Robert Ludlum	5	6
11	COMANCHE MOON, by Larry McMurtry	10	4
12	WOBEGON BOY, by Garrison Keillor	14	2
13	THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS, by Arundhati Roy	11	17
14	TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY, by Sandra Brown	13	2
15	ALL I NEED IS YOU, by Johanna Lindsey		1

NONFICTION

1	MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL, by John Berendt	2	177
2	ANGELA'S ASHES, by Frank McCourt	4	64
3	THE DARK SIDE OF CAMELOT, by Seymour M. Hersh	2	2
4	CITIZEN SOLDIERS, by Stephen E. Ambrose	5	3
5	INTO THIN AIR, by Jon Krakauer	3	31
6	THE PERFECT STORM, by Sebastian Junger	7	26
7	THE MAN WHO LISTENS TO HORSES, by Monty Roberts	6	16
8	DIANA: Her True Story-In Her Own Words, by Andrew Morton	8	7
9	THE MILLIONAIRE NEXT DOOR, by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko	14	46
10	DIRTY JOKES AND BEER, by Drew Carey	10	9
11	CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD: Book 1, by Neale Donald Walsch	9	51
12	TRUMP: The Art of the Comeback, By Donald J. Trump with Kate Bohner		1
13	SOURCES OF STRENGTH, by Jimmy Carter		1
14	TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, by Mitch Albom	11	7
15	WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR, by Doris Kearns Goodwin	13	5

ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS

1	JOY OF COOKING, by Irma S. Rombauer, Marion Rombauer Becker and Ethan Becker	1	2
2	SIMPLE ABUNDANCE, by Sarah Ban Breathnach	2	87
3	MAKING FACES, by Kevyn Aucoin	3	3
4	MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS, by John Gray		218

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Mowing the lawn, e.g.
6 Actor James
10 Work hard
14 Hammerin' Hank
15 Capital near the 60th parallel
16 Part of the arm
17 1988 film about an optimistic broker?
19 Visored cap
20 Not just a barber
21 Compromise one's talents
23 Some sweater necks
25 Banishes
26 1976 film about a Hunt brothers' venture?
32 Harvard, Yale, Brown, etc.
33 South African currency
34 —— tree
37 Bryan defeater, 1908
38 Downpours
40 "Don't dawdle!"
41 Mariner's dir.
42 Aquarium
43 Any song your parents like
44 1976 film about Wall Street pessimists, with "The"?
47 White elephant events
50 Charlotte and others
51 Gimcrack
54 Causing fear and trembling
58 "Diary of —— Housewife"
60 1931 film about a stockbroker's telephone?
62 Zero
63 Ring
64 Assistant who handles letters
65 Alum
66 Blue chip, maybe
67 Tricky curves

DOWN
1 Members of a yellow fleet
2 —— monde (high society)
3 Paris airport
4 Members' list
5 Curly-edged salad ingredients
6 Conqueror of Mexico
7 It's a waste
8 Cry for what might have been
9 Iditarod destination
10 Eskimo boot
11 Bread spreads
12 Type, as computer data
13 Milks: Fr.
18 One needing rehab
22 Truckful
24 Shutdown participant
26 Spot
27 Wall Street's Boesky
28 It's often toasted
29 Nov. honoree
30 Headed
31 Half-inch stripe wearer: Abbr.
34 Crop overseer, for short
35 Brace
36 Jungle creatures
38 "Far out"
39 —— Arbor
40 Bass, e.g.
42 A real piece of work
43 Witness
44 Like some knees
48 Penguin's walk
46 Bone-dry
47 Actor Arnold
48 Slings and arrows repeller
49 Climbing vine
52 Kett of the comics
53 High-tech suffix
55 Lab shouts
56 British school officials
57 Bald eagle's cousin
58 Geneticist's studies
61 Cockpit abbr.

Solution to Puzzle of Dec. 9

P	O	D	S		C	L	O	T		T	I	M	I	D
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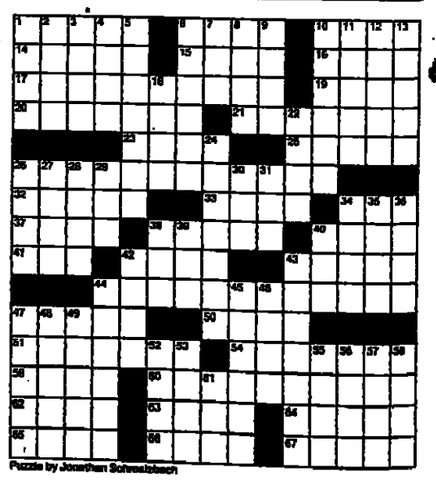

Puzzle by Jonathan Schwalbach

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BUSINESS/FINANCE

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MEDIA MARKETS

An Overseas Match Driven by Costs: NBC and Dow Jones Merge Services

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — In a deal that imitates the business world's growing love affair with mergers on a global scale, the American television network NBC and Dow Jones & Co., publisher of The Wall Street Journal, agreed Tuesday to merge their non-U.S. television interests and cooperate on financial news at home.

The two companies will combine their unprofitable business television channels in Europe and Asia and market their new service under a single brand name around the world: CNBC: A service of NBC and Dow Jones.

In the United States, The Wall Street Journal and Dow Jones Newswires will provide broadcast material for CNBC and the Journal's Internet edition will establish links with MSNBC, the Internet news venture of NBC and Microsoft.

The recent spread of financial instability across Asia and the ramifications of Europe's move toward a single currency are just two of the more-obvious examples of how regional business developments can have repercussions around the globe, said Philip Revzin, editor and publisher of The Wall Street Journal Europe.

"Advertisers increasingly want one-stop shopping, they want multimedia," Mr. Revzin said. "We can now give them all that."

But the deal also says a lot about the high cost of competing globally in a television market full of ambitious players. CNN International is increasing its business coverage and Bloomberg Television is expanding its penetration of non-American markets, for example.

Dow Jones reported a loss of $48 million on its television activities in 1996, and expects to post a similar loss this year.

NBC, a unit of General Electric Co., reportedly is losing about $25 million in Asia and $15 million in Europe this year.

By teaming up, NBC and Dow Jones believe they can slash their respective losses and move into profit in two to three years' time.

Eamonn Store, international account director at the advertising-purchasing agency Carat International, said the new European and Asian television channels would be more attractive if they can successfully blend the partners' styles.

CNBC's European and Asian channels have used a hard-news formula geared toward professionals while Dow Jones' European Business News and Asian Business News channels have relied on more feature-oriented programming. 'Potentially you have something that's more acceptable," Mr. Store said. But, he added, "they are still going to have questionable distribution in Europe."

The new CNBC service will reach 15 million homes via cable and satellite in Europe, with an additional 50 million homes receiving excerpts broadcast on NBC's Super Channel.

By contrast, CNN International claims to reach 66 million homes in Europe and Bloomberg Television puts its market at 37 million.

In Asia, CNBC says it will reach 9 million homes full time and 30 million part time.

[CNBC does not expect the new television venture in Asia to be profitable until 1999 at the earliest, Reuters reported from Hong Kong. CNBC said it would close its Hong Kong operations and move its headquarters to Singapore, resulting in layoffs of 150 people in Hong Kong and 56 in London and New York.

["In 1999 and beyond, we should have some savings," said Karen Elliott House, the president of Dow Jones & Co. International Group.]

Allan Horlick, chief executive of CNBC and NBC Europe, said the company's first task would be to expand the channel's audience.

He said CNBC aimed to expand its penetration into brokerage offices and securities dealers' desk tops, a hard-to-measure but still influential market.

The new venture dealt a blow to The Financial Times, the U.K.-based business newspaper that competes with the Wall Street Journal. It has built its expansion into television around CNBC, supplying the channel with more than seven hours of programming a day. With its main outlet about to pass into the hands of its competitor, the paper is in discussions with other broadcasters about possible business television ventures in Britain and international markets, said Colin Chapman, chief executive of Financial Times Television.

Oh, What a Feeling for France

Toyota Confirms It Plans Factory in North That Will Create 2,000 Jobs

By Susannah Patton
Special to the Herald Tribune

PARIS — Toyota Motor Corp. confirmed Tuesday that it would build its second European factory in the north of France, promising jobs to an industrial rust belt and cheering the Socialist government.

After months of negotiations with the government, Toyota said it would invest 4 billion francs ($668.8 million) and create about 2,000 jobs at a new plant in the northern city of Valenciennes. Toyota, which has a factory in Britain, said production in France of a new model of a compact car would start in three years.

By coming to France, Toyota gains access to a highly trained work force as Europe prepares to launch a common currency in 1999. President Hiroshi Okuda said Tuesday that the company had selected France over other countries because of its strategic location and potential for growth in market share.

"Our policy is to locate production facilities where there is a market," Mr. Okuda said, noting that Toyota aims to increase its market share in France to 3 percent by 2000 from its current level of just under 1 percent. The company said it aims to increase its European market share to 5 percent from 2.8 percent over the same period.

France won out over England, analysts said, because Toyota was looking for a foothold in the future euro zone, highlighting the potential economic cost to Britain of its decision to remain outside the single currency at its launch.

"Toyota's choice of France is an endorsement of monetary union as a concept," said Joanne Perez, an economist at Merrill Lynch & Co. in Paris.

Michel Spingler/The Associated Press
Children from the Valenciennes area waving Japanese and French flags on Tuesday as they welcomed the president of Toyota, Hiroshi Okuda.

NYT

In addition, analysts said Toyota likely chose France to try to foster consumer loyalty in a country that has resisted Japanese imports.

"If they want to build market share in France they have to produce there," said Greg Melich of Morgan Stanley & Co. in London.

The British trade and industry secretary, Margaret Beckett, told Agence France-Presse that she was "naturally disappointed."

"We worked hard to secure the project," she said, "but Toyota's decision was ultimately based on its wider European business strategy and the need to develop its presence in new markets."

Toyota's choice came despite the French government's proposal to cut the legal workweek to 35 hours from 39 hours by 2000 to reduce unemployment.

Toyota skirted the issue Tuesday, saying it was ready to comply with French labor laws and had already calculated the impact of a shortened workweek on its future profitability.

"The debate over the 35-hour week couldn't help but stir passions in the country," Mr. Okuda said. "But our policy is to conform in whatever country we are producing. It was not an important criteria in our production strategy."

French officials said Toyota's arrival would help the France's 12.5 percent jobless rate. But analysts were skeptical.

"The job creation is significant for that region of France," Ms. Perez said. "But on a national level, it addresses a small part of the problem. It remains to be seen if this is the start of a new wave in foreign investment."

The arrival of a major competitor in Europe threatens to weigh further on the saturated car market, analysts said. Car companies in Europe are able to produce 20 percent to 30 percent more cars than they can sell. Renault's chairman, Louis Schweitzer, has warned that Toyota's gains in Europe will come at another carmaker's expense.

"The big losers here will be Peugeot, Renault, Fiat and Volkswagen," Mr. Melich said.

Confirmation of Toyota's arrival comes just months after Renault, citing overcapacity, closed its factory in Vilvoorde, Belgium, a decision that set off labor protests and criticism.

French officials and Mr. Okuda declined to detail government subsidies or tax breaks used to lure Toyota to France. But Industry Minister Christian Pierret said subsidies would total less than 10 percent of Toyota's investment.

Toyota officials said they aimed to produce about 150,000 cars annually at the new plant. The company produced 117,000 cars at its plant in Burnaston, England, last year, and plans to raise production capacity there to 220,000 cars in 1998.

Kodak Wields Law on Trade Secrets

By Mike Mills
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — To any company that vigorously protects its trade secrets, Harold Worden would be the Retired Employee From Hell.

After a 28-year engineering career at Eastman Kodak Co., Mr. Worden retired in 1992 to start his own consulting company. But Kodak contends he sold more than his personal expertise and engineering skills. From 1993 to 1996, the company asserts, Mr. Worden handed over Kodak's most coveted trade secrets to his consulting firm's clients, who happened to be Kodak competitors.

In August he pleaded guilty to one count of peddling stolen Kodak documents across state lines and in February begins a one-year prison sentence.

Kodak decided that wasn't enough. Last week it sued Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co. — a key competitor and Mr. Worden's biggest customer — for unspecified damages, along with a 3M subsidiary in Italy and Imation Corp., which bought some of 3M's film-making assets 18 months ago.

Kodak says 3M and Imation violated federal racketeering laws by stealing, through Mr. Worden, confidential details of Kodak film processes, including blueprints for a huge device called the "401 machine" that makes core film material less expensively and with fewer polluting emissions than before. According to Kodak's suit, 3M provided Mr. Worden with "a ready, 'no questions asked' market for stolen Kodak intellectual property."

Bill O'Leary/The Washington Post
George Fisher, the CEO of Kodak, which is suing over trade secrets.

Officials at 3M, Imation and Kodak would not comment on the case, and only Kodak made an executive available to be interviewed for this article. Days before Kodak filed its suit, 3M asked a judge in Italy to declare that the company had done nothing wrong.

Experts in trade-secrets law said the civil case against 3M and Imation raises serious questions that affect most every type of business: How far can a consultant legally go when advising clients, without revealing confidential information about his former employer? And how liable is the client that buys the expertise of an outside consultant, if that consultant conveys information purloined from a previous employer?

Those questions take on new resonance in today's information-based economy. Corporate spies had to work harder in the old days, spending nights at the copy machine and smuggling documents past security guards. Now any employee can give away the company store merely by hitting the "send" key on a desktop computer.

"We're creating valuable information much faster with the computer revolution than we ever did before, and the ease with which theft can occur is much greater now," said Mark Halligan, a lawyer who specializes in trade secrets law.

Lawsuits alleging theft of trade secrets have risen dramatically in recent years, fueled mostly by a 1996 law that imposes steep penalties for "economic espionage" committed here or abroad. There were only 18 lawsuits filed and four mentions of the phrase "trade secrets" in the Nexis electronic data

See KODAK, Page 20

Philip Morris and Hasbro Cut 2,500 Jobs Each

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Philip Morris Cos. and Hasbro Inc. announced separate restructuring plans Tuesday that will result in a combined loss of 5,000 jobs.

Philip Morris said it would overhaul its lagging international food unit by cutting 2,500 workers, closing plants and selling businesses, resulting in a $630 million charge against fourth-quarter earnings.

Hasbro said it would cut about 2,500 jobs, which amounts to 20 percent of its work force, close at least one factory and leave some toy markets. The restructuring will cut fourth-quarter earnings by $140 million before taxes, it said.

Philip Morris would not specify which businesses would be affected by its moves but said the cutbacks would save $200 million a year by 2000. In the third quarter, profit from international food fell 11 percent to $260 million, making it the only unit to see its profit fall.

The company said it planned to reinvest the savings from the restructuring. International food accounts for about 17 percent of Philip Morris's sales, but only 10 percent of its profit.

The 2,500 jobs amount to about 8 percent of Philip Morris's international food work force and less than 2 percent of the 154,000 employees it had at the end of 1996.

Philip Morris shares finished down 31.25 cents at $44.5625.

Hasbro said its cutbacks should save the company $350 million during the next five years, of which $40 million will be realized in 1998, the company said.

Hasbro also said it would buy back up to $500 million worth of its stock over the next two to three years. Its shares closed up $1.25 at $31.25.

The cost-cutting moves are designed to make the company more competitive with rival Mattel Inc., which makes the ever-popular Barbie doll. Hasbro's Star Wars and Batman action figures have been losing ground to computer and video games. *(Bloomberg, AP)*

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

Dec. 9

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl.	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	2.022	3.379	1.127	0.3367	0.1157*	—	5.4625*	1.380	1.5579*	1.4235	1.3345*
Brussels	34.95	61.065	20.63	6.1455	2.1064*	18.3075	—	25.4075	0.2826	25.99	24.42*
Frankfurt	1.6457	—	7.9533	0.7988	0.1022*	0.8875	4.8406*	1.2788	1.3757*	1.2585	1.1838*
London (a)	1.6457	—	2.9533	9.8858	2,890.32	3.3284	60.9901	2.4865	213.73	2.3386	249.44
Madrid	151.092	248.651	84.3535	25.245	0.829*	74.949	4.0852	103.736	116.109*	106.328	—
Milan	1,715.63	2,881.67	979.05	292.57	—	888.83	47.46	1,202.22	13.456	1,220.35	11.589
New York (b)	—	1.6515a	1.791	5.9925	1,754.00	2.8177	36.95	1.4535	129.735	1.4227	151.815
Paris	5.985	9.6485	3.3464	—	0.3418*	2.9887	0.1622	4.1892	4.5993*	4.2118	3.961*
Tokyo	130.75	214.59	74.11	21.76	0.744	64.42	3.53	88.51	—	91.46	4.8822
Toronto	1.4226	2.3483	0.7940	0.2373	0.0811*	0.7048	0.385*	0.9787	1.0879*	—	8.94*
Zurich	1.4587	2.4048	0.8186	0.2431	0.0838*	0.7214	3.9446*	—	1.1229*	1.1855	0.9622*
1 ECU	1.1046	0.6712	1.9756	6.6112	1,934.25	2.2263	40.7535	1.6089	143.746	1.5887	146.809
1 SDR	1.3603	0.8197	2.4130	8.0753	2,367.59	2.7193	49.7687	1.9645	175.74	1.9102	203.86

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; New York at 4 P.M. and Toronto rates at 3 P.M.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *: Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	0.9999	Greek drac.	280.24	Mex. peso	8.1020	S. Afr. rand	4.8675
Australian $	1.4941	Hong Kong $	7.7392	N. Zealand $	1.6748	S. Kor. won	1460.0
Austrian sch.	12.576	Hung. forint	201.64	Norw. krone	7.2366	Swed. krona	7.8089
Brazil real	1.1116	Indian rupee	38.96	Phil. peso	35.05	Taiwan $	31.96
Chinese yuan	8.31	Indo. rupiah	4175.0	Polish zloty	3.56	Thai baht	41.45
Czech koruna	35.77	Irish £	0.6883	Port. escudo	182.40	Turkish lira	198215.
Danish krone	6.8145	Israeli shek.	3.5384	Russ ruble	5917.0	UAE dirham	3.671
Egypt. pound	3.4043	Kuwaiti dinar	0.3015	Saudi riyal	3.75	Venez. boliv.	501.75
Fin. markka	5.3915	Malay. ring.	3.6647	Sing. $	1.6247		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.6432	1.6409	1.6385	Japanese yen	129.53	128.83	128.26
Canadian dollar	1.4174	1.4156	1.4140	Swiss franc	1.4565	1.4560	1.4555
Deutsche mark	1.7854	1.7823	1.7795				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Cera Investment Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from the Associated Press, Bloomberg and Reuters.

Libid-Libor Rates

Dec. 9

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5⅞ - 5$^{15}/_{16}$	3$^{11}/_{16}$ - 3¾	1¼ - 1⅜	7⅝ - 7$^{11}/_{16}$	3⅞ - 3$^{15}/_{16}$	⅞ - 1	4$^{5}/_{16}$ - 4$^{7}/_{16}$
3-month	5$^{15}/_{16}$ - 5⅝	3$^{11}/_{16}$ - 3¾	1$^{5}/_{16}$ - 1$^{7}/_{16}$	7½ - 7⅝	4⅛ - 4$^{3}/_{16}$	⅞ - 1	4⅜ - 4½
6-month	5⅞ - 5$^{15}/_{16}$	3¾ - 3⅞	1$^{5}/_{16}$ - 1$^{7}/_{16}$	7$^{9}/_{16}$ - 7$^{11}/_{16}$	4¼ - 4⅜	⅞ - 1	4⅜ - 4½
1-year	5$^{15}/_{16}$ - 6	3$^{15}/_{16}$ - 4$^{1}/_{16}$	1$^{13}/_{16}$ - 2$^{1}/_{16}$	7⅝ - 7¾	3$^{15}/_{16}$ - 4$^{1}/_{16}$	¾ - ⅞	4$^{9}/_{16}$ - 4$^{11}/_{16}$

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8½	8½
Federal funds	5½	5⅞
90-day CDs dealers	5.84	5.84
180-day CP dealers	5.63	5.57
3-month Treasury bill	5.11	5.20
1-year Treasury bill	5.29	5.32
2-year Treasury bill	5.79	5.82
5-year Treasury note	5.91	5.91
7-year Treasury note	5.92	5.93
10-year Treasury note	5.94	5.94
20-year Treasury bond	6.11	6.13
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	5.10	5.10
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.40	0.39
1-month interbank	0.90	0.90
3-month interbank	0.90	0.90
6-month interbank	0.90	0.90
10-year Govt bond	1.97	1.81
Germany		
Lombard rate	4.50	4.50
Call money	3.50	3.46
1-month interbank	3.74	3.74
3-month interbank	3.75	3.75
6-month interbank	3.86	3.86
10-year Bund	5.41	5.39

Britain		
Bank base rate	7¼	7¼
Call money	7⅛	7¼
1-month interbank	7$^{9}/_{16}$	7⅝
3-month interbank	7$^{11}/_{16}$	7$^{11}/_{16}$
6-month interbank	7¾	7¾
10-year Gilt	6.41	6.50
France		
Intervention rate	3.30	3.30
Call money	3⅛	3⅛
1-month interbank	3½	3½
3-month interbank	3⅝	3⅝
6-month interbank	3¾	3¾
10-year OAT	5.40	5.34

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Commerzbank, Credit Lyonnais.

Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	N.A.	281.75	—6.30
London	285.50	283.25	—4.25
New York	290.20	284.90	—5.10

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (Feb.)
Source: Reuters.

Global Private Banking

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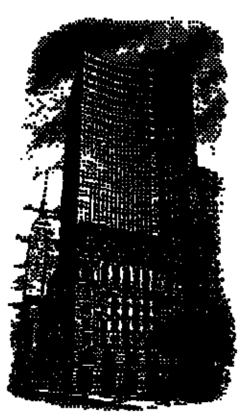
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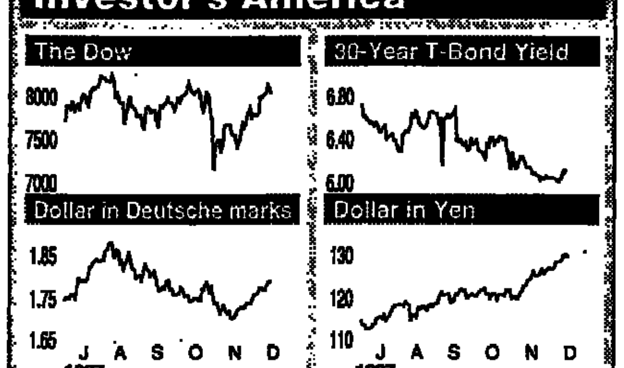
THE AMERICAS

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Tuesday 4 P.M.	Prev. Close	% Change
U.S.	The Dow	8049.66	8110.84	-0.75
U.S.	S&P 500	975.78	982.37	-0.67
U.S.	S&P 100	467.75	472.49	-1.00
U.S.	NYSE Composite	510.86	513.44	-0.50
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1620.57	1651.54	-1.88
U.S.	AMEX Composite	671.55	673.49	-0.29
Toronto	TSE Index	6767.96	6787.70	-0.30
São Paulo	Bovespa	9840.07	10078.91	-2.37
Mexico City	Bolsa	5177.62	[illegible]	[illegible]
Buenos Aires	Merval	700.78	723.37	-2.76
Santiago	IPSA General	4935.42	4966.75	-0.63
Caracas	Capital General	8788.60	8802.11	-0.16

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters — International Herald Tribune

Wall Street Heeds Oracle of Asian Trouble

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Technology shares led the stock market lower Tuesday as a weak profit report from a leading software company aggravated fears about how well U.S. companies will weather the economic turmoil in Asia.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 61.18 points at 8,049.66, while declining issues outnumbered gaining ones by a 9-to-5 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The technology-laden Nasdaq composite index ended down 30.97 at 1,620.57 as investors bristled at earnings from Oracle.

The data-base software company, whose shares tumbled 9 7/16 to 22 15/16 in record-setting volume of 169 million shares, said late Monday that profits for its latest quarter had risen just 4 percent, well below analysts' expectations. Oracle attributed the weakness to the economic crisis in Asia and unfavorable exchange

U.S. STOCKS

rates, warning that those problems may continue to hurt earnings over the next six months.

The news weighed down the technology sector, which has been battered repeatedly since late October amid concerns about its considerable interests in Asia. Among bellwether technology stocks, IBM fell 2½ to 110⅜ as the Dow's weakest component, while Intel lost 2 13/16 to 75⅝. Compaq Computer was the most active issue on the Big Board, losing 2⅛ to 63⅜.

"'Below expectations' are the most horrendous words on Wall Street," said John Bogle, chairman of the Vanguard Group of Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. "If this persists, obviously it's not a good sign. I don't think anyone knows how big a problem it is."

Virtually every major Wall Street brokerage cut its investment rating for Oracle.

In other unsettling earnings developments, National Semiconductor fell 3½ to 27⅛ after the computer chipmaker said orders slowed in the quarter to Nov. 23, even as profit more than tripled.

Hilton Hotels warned that its fourth-quarter results would be below forecasts because of sluggish growth in its casino business. Its shares fell 13/16, to 28 7/16, in active trading.

Wyman-Gordon fell 2¼ to 19½ after the company said third- and fourth-quarter profit would be dented by the temporary shutdown of a press at its Houston plant, which makes engine parts for the commercial aerospace industry.

Mego Mortgage fell 2¼ to 4⅜ after it said it would take a charge of up to $16 million because it had misjudged how quickly loans it holds would be paid off.

Tele-Communications rose 2 to 26⅛ after the cable-television company said it expected to add more than 90,000 subscribers in the fourth quarter.

The Treasury bond market rebounded from losses Monday, with the price of the benchmark issue increasing 13/32 point, to 100 5/32. The yield slipped to 6.11 percent from 6.13 percent Monday. *(AP, Bloomberg)*

Gold Hits 18-Year Low

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Gold prices fell to an 18-year low Tuesday as the U.S. dollar strengthened and concern persisted that central banks would announce they had sold some of their gold reserves.

Argentina's central bank said last week that it had sold 124 tons of gold, the equivalent of about 5 percent of annual gold production from mining, and had invested the proceeds in U.S. Treasury bonds. In July, the Reserve Bank of Australia said it had sold about two-thirds of its gold reserves.

The sales came at a time when gold is losing its status as the linchpin of the world's financial system, with governments eager to invest in better-performing assets. At the same time, the strong dollar is making gold more expensive for consumers buying in local currencies.

"The strength of the dollar is just an extra reason, and it has had an impact on the bit of buying support we have seen," said Kamal Naqvi, a precious-metals analyst at Macquarie Equities Ltd. in London.

Finding virtually no support, bullion was fixed in London at $283.25 an ounce Tuesday, down $4.25 to the lowest level since August 1979. The gold price has dropped by nearly $90 an ounce this year as investors fled the market.

In New York, gold for February delivery on the Commodity Exchange closed at $284.90, down $5.10 from Monday. *(Bloomberg, Reuters)*

Baby Boomers' Spree

But, Overall, U.S. Workers Saving More

By Albert B. Crenshaw
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Younger Americans and those nearing retirement age have stepped up their retirement saving, but baby boomers, the giant population wave that began after World War II, are saving less, a survey indicates.

Overall, U.S. workers are saving more, a trend that began in 1994, but none of the three groups — the so-called Generation X, the baby boomers and those aged 52 to retirement, sometimes dubbed builders — is saving enough, by their members' own estimates, to assure an adequate income in retirement.

However, the survey focused on personal saving done outside of any retirement plan provided by an employer. Recent strong performance by the stock market has helped many workers who have 401(k) or other tax-deferred savings plans. But 46 percent said they think their standard of living will be about the same after they stop working and a third expect it to decline in retirement, while only one in five feel their standard of living will improve.

The study was part of a series of "Workplace Pulse" surveys begun in 1992 and focusing on the retirement plans and needs of American workers. The surveys are sponsored by Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co. and the Employers Council on Flexible Compensation.

Baby boomers may yet catch up. The leading edge of that group is just entering what historically have been Americans' highest earning years. And the builders, in their 50s and 60s, are saving the most — $4,243 a year.

Overall, Americans were saving an average of $203 a month for retirement in 1997, up 2 percent from $199 in 1996. That means the average worker is saving $2,436 a year toward retirement, but estimates that he or she ought to be setting aside $6,444, the study showed.

Generation Xers were saving $1,714 this year, up from $1,455 in 1996, while the builders' $4,242 compared to $2,982 of last year. The boomers slipped 11 percent, to $2,242, from $2,509. Including employer retirement plans, workers had an average of $61,872 saved for retirement.

Dollar Slips as Tokyo Taps Funds

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — The dollar fell against the yen Tuesday after the prime minister of Japan backed a plan to use government money to prop up the nation's struggling banks and securities companies.

But the dollar rose to a two-month high against the Deutsche mark after a

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

report showed German unemployment remained at a post-World War II high last month and on talk that German officials were not bothered by the dollar's strength.

The yen gained after Ryutaro Hashimoto asked his Liberal Democratic Party to consider using $77 billion to assist the financial industry, burdened by as much as $600 billion in bad loans.

"There's been some good yen buying on expectation Japan will adopt a plan to save its ailing financial institutions," said Tatsuya Enomoto, manager of foreign exchange at Sumitomo Bank Ltd.

The dollar fell to 129.735 yen in 4 P.M. trading from 130.525 yen Monday. It rose to 1.7910 DM from 1.7897 DM, to 5.9925 French francs from 5.9885 francs, but eased to 1.4535 Swiss francs from 1.4560 francs. The pound rose to $1.6515 from $1.6477.

The yen was also bolstered as Japanese officials, including Finance Minister Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, hinted that they did not want the yen — down almost 11 percent against the dollar so far this year — to fall much further.

Very briefly:

- **U.S. Surgical Corp.** has agreed to acquire **Pfizer Inc.'s** Valleylab electrosurgical and ultrasound products division for $425 million.
- **News Corp.** announced that Lachlan Murdoch, 26, had been chosen by his siblings as the eventual successor to his father Rupert, 66, as chief executive of the media conglomerate.
- **The National Association of Purchasing Management** said U.S. manufacturers expect the prices they pay for raw materials to rise by 0.6 percent next year. A survey by the group also said manufacturers expect their 1998 revenues to rise by 7.8 percent, following a 7.2 percent increase this year.
- **Legg Mason Inc.** has agreed to buy **Brandywine Asset Management Co.** for about $136 million in stock, a move that would increase its assets under management by 13 percent.
- **Nokia Group,** the Finnish telecommunications-equipment maker, has agreed to buy **Ipsilon Networking Inc.,** a closely held maker of computer-networking products, for about $120 million to expand its U.S. data-networking business.
- **SnyderCommunications Inc.** has acquired two pharmaceutical contract-sales firms, Pennsylvania-based **PharmFlex,** and **Rapid Deployment Group Ltd.** of Britain, for a combined $58.5 million; the purchase will increase the company's ability to provide sales and marketing support. *Bloomberg, AP*

NationsBank Sells Florida Sites

Bloomberg News

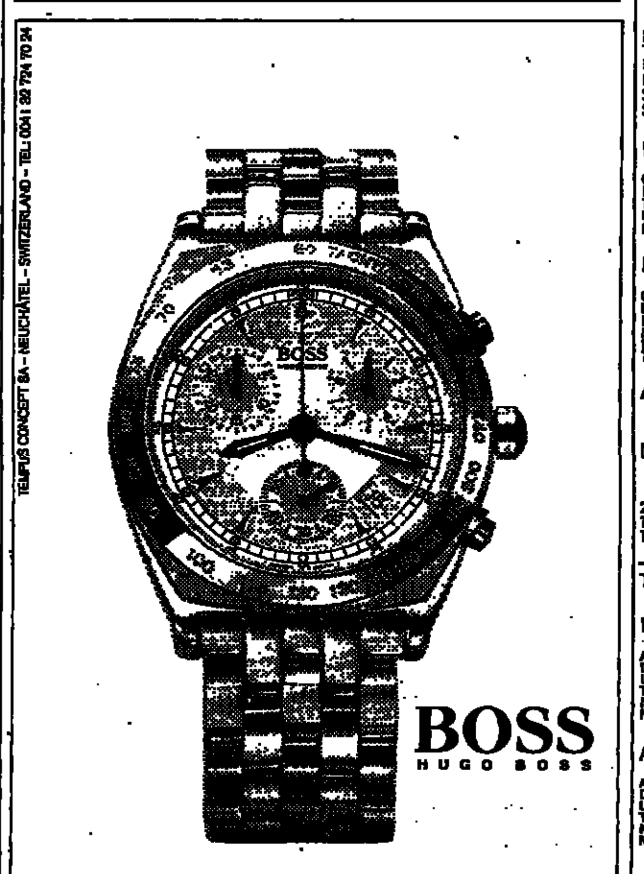
COLUMBUS, Ohio — Huntington Bancshares Inc. agreed Tuesday to buy 60 Florida branches of NationsBank Corp. for $523 million.

The acquisition will add $2.6 billion in deposits, $1.6 billion in loans and 212,000 customers, more than doubling the bank's Florida deposits and branches. NationsBank, which agreed last month to buy Florida-based Barnett Banks Inc. for $14.6 billion, is selling the branches to meet antitrust guidelines.

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close
The 300 most traded stocks of the day, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press.

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes

Dow Jones

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	8085.32	8111.09	8026.04	8049.66	-61.18
Trans	3348.89	3352.43	3324.97	3340.58	-11.93
Util	258.37	259.82	257.44	259.82	+0.85
Comp	2638.87	2643.37	2623.79	2631.12	-12.25

Standard & Poors

	High	Low	Previous Close	Today 4 P.M.
Industrials	1142.44	1134.30	1137.70	1129.03
Transp.	706.71	697.00	705.64	703.41
Utilities	220.02	219.27	219.77	220.16
Finance	121.05	120.47	120.83	120.30
SP 500	985.67	979.57	982.37	975.78
SP 100	474.34	470.77	472.49	467.75

NYSE

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	513.53	510.05	510.86	-2.58
Industrials	636.51	631.76	632.67	-3.71
Transp.	475.96	471.49	472.93	-3.03
Utility	322.12	319.92	321.53	-0.84
Finance	501.43	496.92	498.12	-2.30

Nasdaq

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	1637.66	1620.80	1620.57	-30.97
Industrials	1270.81	1254.74	1254.74	-17.94
Banks	2866.25	2856.31	2862.11	-4.30
Insurance	1834.77	1813.12	1814.00	-4.34
Finance	2456.88	2442.03	2444.29	-5.34
Transp.	1083.96	1074.44	1076.74	-6.52

AMEX

High	Low	Last	Chg.
673.75	670.56	671.55	-1.94

Dow Jones Bond

	Previous Close	Today Noon
20 Bonds	104.50	104.54
10 Utilities	102.50	102.57
10 Industrials	106.50	106.50

Most Actives

NYSE

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Compaq s	94426	65½	62⅞	63 9/16	-2 5/16
Hilton	69128	28⅛	27	28⅛	-⅝
NtSemi	62595	30⅛	26	27	-3½
BayNetwk	47867	29 9/16	27½	27½	-2½
BarrickG	46588	15⅝	15⅛	15¼	-⅝
TexInst s	41202	47 9/16	45 9/16	45¾	-1⅝
GenElec s	39709	74⅜	72 9/16	74⅜	+1 1/16
AutoZone	38800	30⅜	28⅝	29 9/16	-2 9/16
PhilMor s	38061	44 9/16	44⅛	44 9/16	-5/16
AT&T	37825	58¾	57½	58 1/16	+¼
Merck	37678	106⅛	103½	105	+⅛
Gate2000 s	36949	32 9/16	32	32	—
PepsiCo	36092	36⅜	35 9/16	35 9/16	-⅝
IBM s	35019	112¾	110	110¼	-2½
TelBrasl	33654	111¼	109	109 9/16	-4¼

Nasdaq

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Oracle s	170983	[illegible]	22 1/16	22 15/16	-9 7/16
Intel s	159880	78⅛	75	75⅝	-2 13/16
TeleComA	102789	26⅛	24 9/16	26⅛	+2
Cisco	86674	89	86⅜	87 9/16	-2 9/16
ApldMat s	85234	35 9/16	33⅜	33 9/16	-1⅝
3Com	72863	37 15/16	36⅛	37⅛	+⅛
Microsft	64403	145⅞	143½	144 9/16	-1 9/16
DellCpt s	62127	95⅛	92¾	93 9/16	-2 9/16
Peopsft s	60908	36⅛	34½	34 9/16	-2 9/16
Sybase	57952	14⅛	13¼	13¼	-1 9/16
SunMic	55814	40¼	39½	39¾	-1⅛
Comc sp	55565	29 9/16	28¼	29 9/16	+1¼
TelTCIA n	53464	25⅜	24 9/16	25⅛	+9/16
Quantum s	50436	25⅛	24½	24½	-1⅛
SysSR	48723	12⅛	9½	9 9/16	-5 9/16

AMEX

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
TWA	25984	11⅜	10 9/16	10½	-9/16
RoyalO g	22058	1 9/16	1	1 1/16	—
ViacB	17135	34 9/16	34⅛	34 9/16	+⅜
SPDR	14693	98 9/32	97⅜	97⅞	-2⅛
Hasbro s	15498	31¼	30¼	31¼	+1¼
EchoBay	13049	2⅛	2	2⅛	—
FAusPr	9427	7⅝	7½	7 9/16	+1/16
PegGld	9093	⅜	5/16	5/16	—
Nabors	7660	39⅛	37¾	38 9/16	-1⅜
XCL Ltd	7368	5/16	¼	5/16	—

Trading Activity

NYSE

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1141	1613
Declined	1782	1366
Unchanged	534	512
Total issues	3457	3491
New Highs	165	232
New Lows	50	25

Nasdaq

	Noon	Prev.
Advanced	1513	2247
Declined	2112	1943
Unchanged	1953	1565
Total issues	5578	5755
New Highs	138	265
New Lows	110	133

AMEX

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	252	300
Declined	342	309
Unchanged	153	169
Total issues	747	778
New Highs	28	30
New Lows	18	19

Market Sales

	Today 4:00	Prev. cons.
NYSE	538.43	595.54
Amex	27.21	34.87
Nasdaq	755.50	634.42

In millions.

Dividends

Company	Per	Amt	Rec	Pay
IRREGULAR				
Franklin Univ	-	.411	12-15	12-31
Gf Glbl E Europe	-	4.16	12-16	12-23
New S Africa Fd	-	1.29	12-26	1-9
STOCK SPLIT				
Computer Learning 2 for 1 split.				
Helmerich Payne 2 for 1 split.				
Home Fincl Grp 2 for 1 split.				
Ipsco Inc 3 for 2 split.				
Luxottica Grp 5 for 1 split.				
REVERSE STOCK SPLIT				
Chaus,Bernard 1 for 10 reverse split.				
Citadel Holding 1 share of Big 4 Ranch for each share of Citadel held.				
INCREASED				
EatonVan TrdTst	M	.05	12-15	12-31
Fst Fed Bncp OH.	Q	.07	12-19	1-2
Ipsco Inc g	Q	.125	3-10	3-31
Spartech Cp	Q	.06	12-23	1-6
Simmons Fst Ntl	Q	.15	12-15	1-2
INITIAL				
AMB Property	-	.134	12-18	12-29
Citizens Ntl Bk TX	-	.30	12-31	1-15
World Fuel n	-	.05	12-19	1-2
REGULAR				
AmeriVest Prop	Q	.1125	12-26	1-9
Amwest Insurance	Q	.11	12-31	1-15
BGS Systems	Q	.30	12-22	1-9
Berry Petrol A.	Q	.10	12-15	12-29
Boeing Co	Q	.14	2-13	3-6
Bull&Bear Glb In	M	.07	12-19	12-31
CFX Corp	Q	.22	12-19	1-16
Cdn Imperial Bk g	Q	.30	12-29	1-28
Chesapeake Corp	Q	.20	1-12	2-13
Dillards Inc A.	Q	.04	12-31	2-2
Freddie Mac	Q	.10	12-15	12-31
Fuller HB.	Q	.185	1-23	2-10
Green Mt Pwr	Q	.275	12-17	12-31
Loewen Group g	S	.10	1-6	1-20
Mobile Gas	Q	.30	12-12	1-1
RLI Corp	Q	.15	12-31	1-15
Summit Prop	Q	.3975	1-12	2-16
WD-40 Co	Q	.32	1-9	1-30

a-annual; b-approximate amount per share/ADR; g-payable in Canadian funds; m-monthly; q-quarterly; s-semiannually.

U.S. Stock Tables Explained

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid, the years high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stocks only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.
a - dividend also extra (s). b - annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend. c - liquidating dividend. cc - PE exceeds 99.cld - called. d - new yearly low. dd - loss in the last 12 months. e - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months. f - annual rate, increased on last declaration. g - dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax. i - dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend. j - dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting. k - dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulative issue with dividends in arrears. m - annual rate, reduced on last declaration. n - new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading. nd - next day delivery. p - initial dividend, annual rate unknown. P/E - price-earnings ratio. q - closed-end mutual fund. r - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend. s - stock split. Dividend begins with date of split. sls - sales. t - dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. u - new yearly high. v - trading halted. vi - in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies. wd - when distributed. wi - when issued/ ww - with warrants. x - ex-dividend or ex-rights. xdis - ex-distribution. xw - without warrants. y- ex-dividend and sales in full. yld - yield. z - sales in full.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Dec. 9, 1997

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	Opint
Grains					
CORN (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
Dec 97	274½	270½	271	-2¼	18,819
Mar 98	285	281½	281¾	-2¼	183,745
May 98	291¼	288½	289	-2	44,201
Jul 98	295½	292¼	293½	-1	55,241
Sep 98	289¾	286½	288½	+1	5,204
Dec 98	289¾	286¾	288¾	+¾	31,487
Jul 99	302¼	299½	301½	+1	275
Est. sales 53,000 Mon's sales 56,215					
Mon's open int 340,455, off 4,110					
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT) 100 tons- dollars per ton					
Dec 97	232.50	229.30	230.40	-2.00	18,915
Jan 98	224.50	222.50	223.60	-2.80	28,257
Mar 98	219.70	217.40	218.40	-2.20	34,669
May 98	216.70	214.30	215.10	-2.50	21,083
Jul 98	216.50	214.60	215.10	-2.40	15,266
Aug 98	216.50	214.50	214.80	-3.20	3,992
Est. sales 16,000 Mon's sales 13,715					
Mon's open int 121,105, off 354					
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT) 60,000 lbs- cents per lb					
Dec 97	24.95	24.50	24.85	+0.20	3,297
Jan 98	25.22	24.70	25.07	+0.32	41,713
Mar 98	25.60	25.00	25.52	+0.36	33,701
May 98	25.80	25.32	25.80	+0.36	13,778
Jul 98	25.97	25.52	25.91	+0.33	11,597
Aug 98	25.90	25.45	25.90	+0.38	2,596
Est. sales 20,000 Mon's sales 24,233					
Mon's open int 108,887, off 2,546					
SOYBEANS (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
Jan 98	710	702	707	-3	65,614
Mar 98	713	706	709½	-3½	31,618
May 98	719	711	714½	-3½	21,723
Jul 98	720	713½	716½	-3¼	23,244
Aug 98	715	711	712¼	-3¼	2,537
Est. sales 38,000 Mon's sales 33,029					
Mon's open int 154,191, up 494					
WHEAT (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
Dec 97	349½	344½	344½	-7¼	1,321
Mar 98	365	359½	359¾	-7¼	53,937
May 98	372	365½	366¼	-3	11,253
Jul 98	375¼	371	371	-3¼	18,371
Est. sales 15,000 Mon's sales 14,307					
Mon's open int 88,738, off 2,103					
Livestock					
CATTLE (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Dec 97	67.40	66.62	67.10	+0.20	10,600
Feb 98	68.20	67.50	67.82	+0.10	49,761
Apr 98	71.32	70.82	71.05	-0.05	22,808
Jun 98	70.10	69.42	70.05	+0.30	13,365
Aug 98	71.07	70.60	71.02	+0.27	5,400
Oct 98	73.00	72.62	72.80	+0.12	1,319
Est. sales 15,319 Mon's sales 14,563					
Mon's open int 103,385, up 82					
FEEDER CATTLE (CMER) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Jan 98	80.65	79.90	80.15	+0.07	8,181
Mar 98	80.75	80.05	80.20	+0.02	4,132
Apr 98	81.00	80.42	80.55	unch.	1,452
May 98	81.75	81.25	81.30	-0.05	1,368
Aug 98	83.15	82.80	83.02	+0.07	711
Sep 98	83.00	82.80	83.00	+0.10	150
Est. sales 2,499 Mon's sales 1,639					
Mon's open int 16,076, up 213					
HOGS-Lean (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Dec 97	63.17	62.10	62.90	+0.47	7,096
Feb 98	60.95	59.85	60.65	+0.42	19,859
Apr 98	57.62	57.00	57.47	+0.22	7,828
Jun 98	65.50	65.00	65.25	unch.	4,286
Jul 98	64.35	63.97	64.15	+0.07	1,315
Est. sales 8,240 Mon's sales 4,909					
Mon's open int 41,270, off 175					
PORK BELLIES (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Feb 98	55.85	54.55	55.42	-0.02	6,365
Mar 98	55.40	54.30	54.85	-0.22	1,077
May 98	56.20	55.00	55.72	-0.37	1,011
Est. sales 3,355 Mon's sales 2,614					
Mon's open int 9,000, off 189					
Food					
COCOA (NCSE) 10 metric tons- $ per ton					
Dec 97	1601	1588	1591	-11	72
Mar 98	1642	1611	1618	-11	40,362
May 98	1665	1640	1645	-10	18,886
Jul 98	1685	1665	1665	-10	4,734
Sep 98	1706	1684	1684	-10	5,654
Dec 98	1726	1705	1705	-16	9,132
Est. sales 14,386 Mon's sales 4,890					
Mon's open int 98,086, off 689					
COFFEE C (NCSE) 37,500 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Dec 97	188.00	175.25	187.50	+9.50	794
Mar 98	183.50	170.50	182.70	+8.85	17,762
May 98	176.50	163.00	174.20	+9.95	5,500
Jul 98	167.20	155.70	167.20	+9.45	2,684
Sep 98	159.20	148.50	159.20	+8.70	1,186
Est. sales 5,310 Mon's sales 8,197					
Mon's open int 29,064, up 1,102					
SUGARWORLD 11 (NCSE) 112,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Mar 98	12.35	12.25	12.33	-0.02	117,138
May 98	12.25	12.16	12.24	-0.01	32,193
Jul 98	11.89	11.83	11.89	+0.02	28,029
Oct 98	11.72	11.62	11.72	+0.06	24,534
Est. sales 20,217 Mon's sales 15,322					
Mon's open int 210,419, up 3,535					

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	Opint
ORANGE JUICE (NCTN) 15,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Jan 98	84.50	80.00	83.15	+3.40	21,044
Mar 98	87.00	83.25	86.35	+3.45	15,618
May 98	90.30	86.80	89.50	+3.30	3,527
Jul 98	92.50	90.25	92.50	+3.30	1,924
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 3,786					
Mon's open int 44,682, off 607					
Metals					
GOLD (NCMX) 100 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.					
Dec 97	286.20	281.50	282.80	-5.10	900
Jan 98	283.60	283.20	283.60	-5.10	8
Feb 98	290.20	283.20	284.90	-5.10	112,459
Apr 98	291.20	285.00	286.70	-5.10	11,930
Jun 98	292.30	287.00	288.70	-5.20	11,902
Aug 98	291.90	290.60	290.80	-5.20	4,600
Est. sales 60,000 Mon's sales 13,727					
Mon's open int 197,887, off 297					
HI GRADE COPPER (NCMX) 25,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Dec 97	80.85	80.10	80.60	-0.25	1,700
Jan 98	81.50	80.80	81.20	-0.30	2,850
Feb 98	82.25	81.85	81.85	-0.30	1,807
Mar 98	82.50	81.45	82.25	-0.30	32,765
Apr 98	83.00	82.70	82.70	-0.35	1,467
May 98	83.40	82.80	83.10	-0.30	4,700
Jun 98	83.90	83.55	83.55	-0.20	1,565
Jul 98	84.00	83.70	83.70	-0.30	3,582
Aug 98			84.00	-0.20	1,219
Est. sales 6,200 Mon's sales 5,410					
Mon's open int 64,532, off 201					
SILVER (NCMX) 5,000 troy oz.- cents per troy oz.					
Dec 97	539.50	532.00	539.50	+6.00	999
Jan 98	541.30	536.00	541.30	+6.00	36
Feb 98			543.50	+6.00	
Mar 98	546.00	533.00	544.80	+5.30	64,252
May 98	545.50	538.00	544.80	+3.80	6,225
Jul 98	546.00	538.00	544.80	+3.00	5,479
Sep 98			545.30	+2.40	807
Dec 98	545.80	541.50	545.80	+1.80	5,549
Est. sales 21,000 Mon's sales 12,493					
Mon's open int 88,562, off 1,598					
PLATINUM (NMER) 50 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.					
Jan 98	378.00	369.50	375.90	-0.80	10,463
Apr 98	374.50	368.00	373.90	+0.70	3,014
Jul 98	370.90	366.00	370.90	+0.70	131
Oct 98	373.00	367.90	367.90	unch.	
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 1,225					
Mon's open int 13,608, off 187					

LONDON METALS (LME) Dollars per metric ton	Close		Previous	
Aluminum (High Grade)				
Spot	1553½	1554½	1548½	1549½
Forward	1574½	1575.00	1568½	1569.00
Copper Cathodes (High Grade)				
Spot	1774.00	1775.00	1768.00	1770.00
Forward	1804.00	1805.00	1779.00	1801.00
Lead				
Spot	516½	517½	514½	515½
Forward	533.00	534.00	532.00	532½
Nickel				
Spot	5975.00	5980.00	5935.00	5945.00
Forward	6070.00	6075.00	6030.00	6035.00
Tin				
Spot	5595.00	5608.00	5730.00	5740.00
Forward	5460.00	5465.00	5570.00	5575.00
Zinc (Special High Grade)				
Spot	1099.00	1101.00	1093.00	1094.00
Forward	1122.00	1124.00	1116.00	1118.00

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Financial					
US T BILLS (CMER) $1 million- pts of 100 pct.					
Dec 97	94.91	94.89	94.90	+0.01	3,878
Mar 98	94.96	94.93	94.96	+0.03	6,414
Jun 98			94.93	+0.02	927
Sep 98			94.91	-0.04	23
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 475					
Mon's open int 11,342, off 85					
5 YR TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 64ths of 100 pct					
Dec 97	107-56	107-46	107-51	+ 05	63,238
Est. sales 52,895 Mon's sales 47,538					
Mon's open int 272,715, off 2,655					
10 YR TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Dec 97	111-08	110-29	111-04	+ 03	84,107
Mar 98	111-00	110-21	110-28	+ 03	289,882
Jun 98	110-28	110-26	110-26	+ 03	700
Est. sales 94,371 Mon's sales 84,421					
Mon's open int 374,689, off 11,161					
US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT) (8 pct-$100,000-pts & 32nds of 100 pct)					
Dec 97	118-14	118-01	118-07	+ 02	114,883
Mar 98	118-08	117-25	118-02	+ 03	575,498
Jun 98	117-28	117-18	117-24	+ 03	19,007
Sep 98			117-16	+ 03	4,297
Est. sales 370,000 Mon's sales 303,691					
Mon's open int 718,476, off 18,097					
LONG GILT (LIFFE) £50,000 - pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Dec 97	119-26	119-06	119-25	+0-18	29,911
Mar 98	120-13	119-21	120-12	+0-18	166,990
Jun 98	N.T.	N.T.	104-22	+0-18	1,098
Est. sales: 68,322. Prev. sales: 38,494					
Prev. open int.: 197,999 off 7,149					
GERMAN GOV. BUND (LIFFE) DM250,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Mar 98	103.82	103.58	103.67	—0.26	263,421
Jun 98	103.04	102.96	103.02	—0.22	48
Est. sales: 120,643. Prev. sales: 105,027					
Prev. open int.: 263,469 up 3,946					

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	Opint
10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF) FF500,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Dec 97	100.86	100.64	100.66	—0.18	70,561
Mar 98	100.42	100.18	100.20	—0.12	85,798
Est. sales: 137,457.					
Open int.: 156,371 up 18,725.					
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct					
Mar 98	114.95	114.60	114.66	—0.20	115,735
Jun 98	114.25	114.17	114.15	—0.36	42
Est. sales: 20,568. Prev. sales: 14,658					
Prev. open int.: 115,777 up 1,256					
LIBOR 1-MONTH (CMER) $3 million- pts of 100 pct.					
Dec 97	94.02	94.00	94.02	+0.01	22,188
Jan 98	94.25	94.22	94.24	+0.01	12,009
Feb 98	94.20	94.18	94.19	+0.01	4,741
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 4,241					
Mon's open int 43,325, up 1,377					
EURODOLLARS (CMER) $1 million-pts of 100 pct.					
Dec 97	94.08	94.06	94.07	+0.01	384,453
Feb 98	94.10	94.08	94.09	+0.01	2,436
Mar 98	94.07	94.03	94.06	+0.02	469,505
Jun 98	94.03	93.98	94.01	+0.02	387,023
Sep 98	93.99	93.93	93.97	+0.03	270,491
Dec 98	93.91	93.86	93.89	+0.01	213,837
Mar 99	93.91	93.87	93.90	+0.02	158,116
Jun 99	93.87	93.85	93.86	+0.01	133,112
Sep 99	93.84	93.82	93.83	+0.01	98,015
Dec 99	93.79	93.75	93.77	+0.01	96,777
Mar 00	93.81	93.77	93.79	+0.01	72,456
Jun 00	93.79	93.75	93.77	+0.01	60,126
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 465,952					
Mon's open int 2,789,335, off 45,892					
BRITISH POUND (CMER) 62,500 pounds, $ per pound					
Dec 97	1.6540	1.6442	1.6504	+0.0052	38,415
Mar 98	1.6466	1.6374	1.6436	+0.0052	14,570
Jun 98	1.6390	1.6300	1.6370	+0.0054	1,256
Est. sales 15,965 Mon's sales 21,511					
Mon's open int 54,242, up 2,191					
CANADIAN DOLLAR (CMER) 100,000 dollars, $ per Cdn. dlr					
Dec 97	.7043	.7028	.7033	-0.0008	44,165
Mar 98	.7072	.7057	.7061	-0.0008	40,167
Jun 98	.7090	.7080	.7084	-0.0008	1,840
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 30,118					
Mon's open int 87,313, up 5,862					
GERMAN MARK (CMER) 125,000 marks, $ per mark					
Dec 97	.5603	.5571	.5586	-0.0005	59,609
Mar 98	.5632	.5600	.5615	-0.0005	36,956
Jun 98	.5650	.5635	.5643	-0.0005	4,153
Est. sales 41,594 Mon's sales 51,310					
Mon's open int 100,855, up 3,255					
JAPANESE YEN (CMER) 12.5 million yen, $ per 100 yen					
Dec 97	.7739	.7669	.7724	+0.0054	93,964
Mar 98	.7857	.7769	.7830	+0.0056	58,395
Jun 98	.7939	.7906	.7939	+0.0057	1,620
Est. sales 48,060 Mon's sales 88,645					
Mon's open int 155,239, up 9,522					
SWISS FRANC (CMER) 125,000 francs, $ per franc					
Dec 97	.6888	.6840	.6885	+0.0019	32,583
Mar 98	.6958	.6909	.6954	+0.0018	22,151
Jun 98	.7056	.6975	.7022	+0.0017	1,316
Est. sales 24,772 Mon's sales 39,681					
Mon's open int 56,165, up 4,523					
MEXICAN PESO (CMER) 500,000 pesos, $ per peso					
Dec 97	.12310	.12280	.12292	-.00121	12,197
Mar 98	.11890	.11860	.11870	-.00177	12,535
Jun 98	.11510	.11490	.11490	-.00177	2,997
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 5,624					
Mon's open int 32,089, up 544					
3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE) £500,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Dec 97	92.33	92.30	92.31	+0.01	147,290
Mar 98	92.32	92.28	92.31	+0.05	137,232
Jun 98	92.44	92.38	92.42	+0.07	104,377
Sep 98	92.56	92.49	92.54	+0.08	81,012
Dec 98	92.72	92.64	92.70	+0.08	75,854
Mar 99	92.92	92.86	92.90	+0.08	64,168
Jun 99	93.08	93.03	93.07	+0.08	55,210
Est. sales: 146,308. Prev. sales: 82,984					
Prev. open int.: 804,293 up 3,370					
3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE) DM1 million - pts of 100 pct					
Dec 97	96.23	96.22	96.23	Unch.	250,315
Jan 98	96.23	96.22	96.22	—0.01	12,346
Mar 98	96.09	96.07	96.08	—0.01	334,167
Jun 98	95.88	95.85	95.86	—0.02	314,043
Sep 98	95.70	95.67	95.68	—0.03	231,132
Dec 98	95.49	95.46	95.47	—0.03	199,427
Mar 99	95.31	95.28	95.29	—0.04	239,585
Est. sales: 109,741. Prev. sales: 104,062					
Prev. open int.: 1,954,145 up 2,877					
3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF) FF5 million - pts of 100 pct					
Dec 97	96.31	96.30	96.30	Unch.	47,904
Jan 98	0.00	0.00	96.22	Unch.	332
Feb 98	0.00	0.00	96.15	Unch.	5
Mar 98	96.08	96.07	96.07	Unch.	69,628
Jun 98	95.87	95.85	95.85	Unch.	35,294
Sep 98	95.69	95.67	95.68	Unch.	28,091
Dec 98	95.51	95.49	95.50	— 0.01	25,372
Est. sales: 21,694.					
Open int.: 284,528 up 1,301.					
3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE) ITL 1 million - pts of 100 pct					
Dec 97	93.95	93.91	93.92	—0.04	100,358
Mar 98	94.73	94.69	94.71	—0.02	127,263
Jun 98	95.28	95.25	95.26	—0.02	128,025
Sep 98	95.42	95.40	95.40	—0.04	76,193
Dec 98	95.36	95.32	95.32	—0.06	59,847
Est. sales: 43,056. Prev. sales: 20,440					
Prev. open int.: 601,936 off 1,055					

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	Opint
Industrials					
COTTON 2 (NCTN) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Mar 98	68.15	67.52	67.67	-0.80	43,276
May 98	69.55	69.00	69.07	-0.73	14,370
Jul 98	70.90	70.35	70.41	-0.69	15,147
Oct 98	73.05	72.65	72.70	-0.58	1,325
Dec 98	73.80	73.55	73.67	-0.18	11,135
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 4,739					
Mon's open int 85,956, off 210					
HEATING OIL (NMER) 42,000 gal, cents per gal					
Jan 98	53.70	53.05	53.12	-0.40	52,383
Feb 98	54.25	53.60	53.66	-0.39	32,641
Mar 98	54.10	53.56	53.56	-0.39	17,188
Apr 98	53.30	52.86	52.86	-0.39	8,631
May 98	52.55	52.16	52.16	-0.39	6,487
Jun 98	52.35	51.91	51.91	-0.39	7,448
Jul 98	52.35	51.96	51.96	-0.39	3,619
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 24,094					
Mon's open int 142,121, up 1,783					
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NMER) 1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.					
Jan 98	18.89	18.62	18.67	-0.17	100,233
Feb 98	19.13	18.89	18.92	-0.17	71,272
Mar 98	19.22	19.02	19.07	-0.16	34,842
Apr 98	19.36	19.18	19.18	-0.16	22,959
May 98	19.40	19.27	19.27	-0.16	22,654
Jun 98	19.43	19.30	19.31	-0.16	34,055
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 46,128					
Mon's open int 431,760, off 3,516					
NATURAL GAS (NMER) 10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu					
Jan 98	2.535	2.400	2.515	+0.093	44,109
Feb 98	2.480	2.375	2.470	+0.077	29,262
Mar 98	2.380	2.300	2.375	+0.065	20,967
Apr 98	2.265	2.200	2.265	+0.055	11,576
May 98	2.230	2.188	2.230	+0.037	9,556
Jun 98	2.210	2.190	2.210	+0.017	8,738
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 29,504					
Mon's open int 208,292, off 516					
UNLEADED GASOLINE (NMER) 42,000 gal, cents per gal					
Jan 98	57.05	55.90	55.97	-0.99	31,822
Feb 98	56.95	56.30	56.36	-0.90	18,645
Mar 98	57.30	56.70	56.76	-0.81	11,179
Apr 98	59.75	59.39	59.39	-0.73	8,889
May 98	59.65	59.19	59.19	-0.73	9,211
Jun 98	59.30	58.69	58.69	-0.68	6,635
Jul 98	58.30	57.94	57.94	-0.63	4,620
Aug 98			57.04	-0.58	1,785
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 22,723					
Mon's open int 96,470, off 1,721					
GASOIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons					
Dec 97	165.00	163.00	163.50	—1.75	11,688
Jan 98	166.00	164.00	164.50	—2.00	28,961
Feb 98	166.00	164.25	165.00	—1.25	15,791
Mar 98	165.50	164.25	164.50	—1.50	11,379
Apr 98	164.75	164.00	164.25	—1.00	4,586
May 98	164.00	163.75	164.00	—0.75	2,810
Jun 98	164.50	163.75	164.00	—0.50	11,035
Est. sales:19,000. Prev. sales : 13,842					
Prev. open int.: 100,765 up 1,102					
BRENT OIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels					
Jan 98	18.18	17.90	17.92	—0.23	49,062
Feb 98	18.24	17.98	17.99	—0.22	66,265
Mar 98	18.24	18.00	18.02	—0.17	23,014
Apr 98	18.26	18.10	18.03	—0.17	14,149
May 98	18.25	18.09	18.03	—0.16	10,435
Jun 98	18.27	18.08	18.03	—0.15	16,924
Est. sales: 41,315. Prev. sales: 28,869					
Prev. open int.: 193,696 up 1,368					
Stock Indexes					
SP COMP INDEX (CMER) 250 x index					
Dec 97	986.20	974.30	977.20	-7.40	292,994
Mar 98	994.70	986.00	988.30	-7.60	115,438
Jun 98	1094.30	1000.80	1000.80	-5.90	6,346
Est. sales N.A. Mon's sales 123,951					
Mon's open int 416,714, off 4,610					
FTSE 100 (LIFFE) £25 per index point					
Dec 97	5218.0	5180.0	5178.0	—40.0	54,698
Mar 98	5263.5	5232.0	5226.5	—40.0	14,389
Est. sales: 17,647. Prev. sales: 9,943					
Prev. open int.: 69,087 up 261					
CAC 40 (MATIF) FF200 per index point					
Dec 97	2980.0	2929.0	2967.0	+25.0	42,665
Jan 98	2983.5	2941.0	2974.0	+25.0	4,584
Mar 98	3002.0	2953.0	2990.5	+25.0	11,571
Jun 98	N.T	N.T.	2959.5	+25.0	1,860
Est. sales: 20,799.					
Open int.: 77,973 off 453.					

Commodity Indexes

	Close	Previous
Moody's	1,485.50	1,487.20
Reuters	1,795.90	1,792.30
D.J. Futures	145.27	145.01
CRB	237.12	236.26

Sources: Matif, Associated Press, London Int'l Financial Futures Exchange, Int'l Petroleum Exchange.

صكذا من الأهل

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day.
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

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Continued on Page 17

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INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

December 9, 1997

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a - Asked • - Offer Prices; N.A. - Not Available; N.C. - Not Communicated; o- New; S - suspended; S/S - stock Split; * - Ex-Dividend; ** - Ex-Rts, - ø Offer Price incl. 3% prelim. charge; ' - Paris exchange; ++ -Amsterdam exchange, o - misquoted earlier; z-not registered with regulatory authority; P: Middle of bid and offered price. E: estimated price; y: price calculated 2 days prior to publication; z: bid price.

The marginal symbols indicate frequency of quotations supplied: (d) - daily; (w) - weekly; (bi) - bi-monthly; (f) - fortnightly; (m) - monthly; (q) - twice weekly; (m) - monthly.

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هكذا من الأصل

NASDAQ

Tuesday's 4 P.M.

The 1,000 most traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.

The Associated Press.

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

(Continued)

Germany Posts Record Joblessness

Rolls Swell by 11,000 for November

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — The number of unemployed workers in Germany rose in November for the eighth consecutive month, statistics released Tuesday showed. The jobless rate remained at a postwar high of 11.8 percent of the potential work force.

Adjusted for seasonal variations, unemployment rose by 11,000 in November, to a record 4.526 million, the Federal Labor Office said. Unemployment climbed 19,000 in October.

The data showed improvement in Western Germany, where the number of jobless workers fell by more than 3,000, to 3.053 million, while in Eastern Germany a construction slump and the end of government job-creation programs swelled the number of unemployed by nearly 15,000, to 1.473 million.

Separate data from the Bundesbank showed that in Western Germany, the adjusted jobless rate was unchanged at 9.9 percent, while in the East it edged up to 19.6 percent from 19.4 percent.

But the figures were somewhat better than analysts had expected, and Bernhard Jagoda, president of the Federal Labor Office, said he saw signs that joblessness was gradually peaking.

"In the job market in Germany there are further signs that the bottom is being reached gradually, even though we still have to wait for a fundamental improvement," Mr. Jagoda said. "The growth trend in the German economy is not yet steep enough to keep jobs from being shed in the face of continued high pressure on corporations to rationalize."

That view also was endorsed by private-sector economists, who said they expected unemployment to begin falling in the first half of 1998.

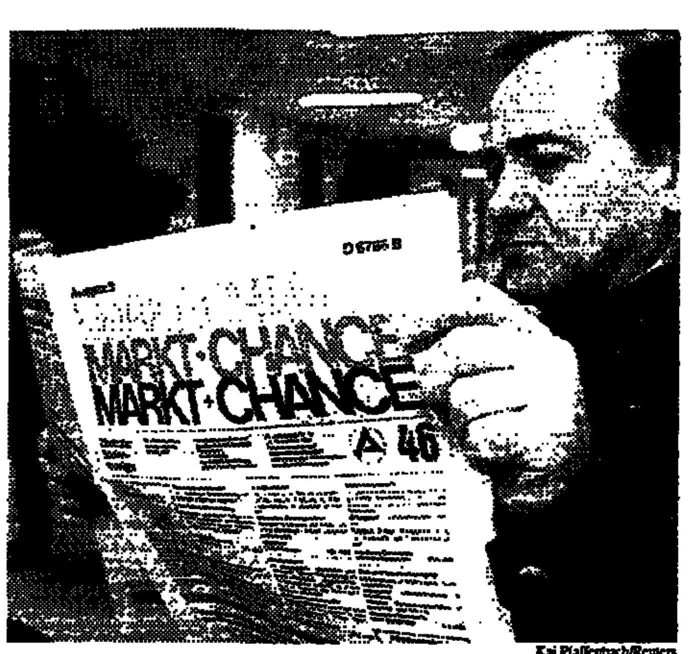
The Western decline "is an expression of the firmer economy, especially of the manufacturing industries, which are being supported by exports," said Uwe Angenendt of BHF Bank AG. "We'll have seen the worst in February."

While Western companies have enjoyed improving sales and earnings thanks to rising export demand, Eastern companies are still suffering from cutbacks in public spending, particularly in construction. Eastern Germany makes up about 10 percent of the economy.

"Eastern Germany is not participating in the recovery," said Dietrich Beier of Bankgesellschaft Berlin.

Peter Hausmann, a government spokesman, acknowledged that faster economic growth, forecast at 2.5 percent for the full year, had not affected the labor market. He said that 3 percent growth in 1998, as forecast by the government, would be enough to lower unemployment from record highs.

Most economists expect Western joblessness to fall next year as exporters are forced to resume hiring. But high labor costs and taxes are still deterring many companies from hiring, and tax reforms to bolster job creation are unlikely to be realized before 1999. *(Bloomberg, Reuters)*



Kai Pfaffenbach/Reuters

An unemployed man reading help-wanted ads in Frankfurt on Tuesday as data showed a rise in German jobless rolls.

Moscow Tells IMF It Can Manage on Its Own for Now

Reuters

MOSCOW — Russia and the International Monetary Fund discussed providing Moscow with a Seoul-style stabilization package, but such financing is not needed at present, Yevgeni Yasin, minister without portfolio, said Tuesday.

Mr. Yasin said new financial instruments had been worked out as part of the process of helping South Korea.

"We discussed the possibility of applying these new forms to Russia, if this becomes necessary," he said. "The situation today is that we are not asking for anything, we can manage on our own."

A Fund mission is in Moscow, and the authorities there have asked the lending agency to consider bringing forward the disbursement of the next $700 million quarterly tranche of the IMF's loan to December from January or February. The loan has been suspended since a mission left in October without completing its work, pointing to poor Russian tax collection.

Senior central bank and government officials also flew to Washington last month for talks with the Fund.

Moscow has been negotiating short-term funding of up to $2 billion with Western banks, but a senior Finance Ministry official said Tuesday that Russia's finances had improved and that there was no need for further significant borrowing this year.

Talks with the banks will resume next year if necessary, Deputy Finance Minister Mikhail Kasyanov said.

"They have now stopped," he said, referring to the talks. "We shall return to this question at the start of January, at the start of the New Year."

Mr. Kasyanov said Moscow expected to receive more than $1 billion in loans from the World Bank soon, and he noted that domestic bond and Eurobond markets had improved.

A World Bank spokeswoman said the board was expected to vote in the next two weeks on an $800 million structural adjustment loan to help Moscow carry out economic reforms and an $800 million loan for the coal sector.

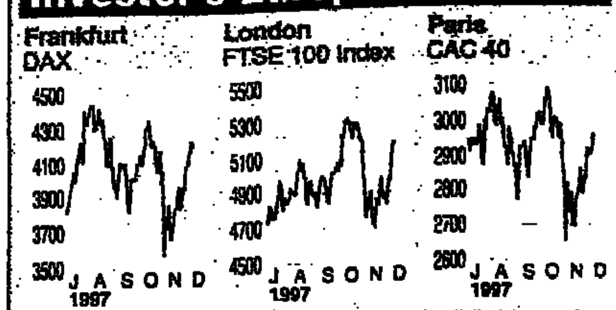
A better performance by Russian bonds on domestic and international markets had helped, Mr. Kasyanov said.

Some Russian treasury bill dealers said news of the World Bank loans should help the market.

"If they give us the credit, it will hold back the selling which occurs periodically," said Sergei Fyodorov, a dealer at Vneshtorgbank.

Mr. Yasin, one of the government's main economic experts, also said the budget deficit next year could be bigger than planned as debt-servicing costs would increase following the recent market turmoil. The 1998 budget, which underwent a first reading Friday in the Federal Assembly, proposes a deficit of 4.7 percent of gross domestic product, and Mr. Yasin said it could now be 1.5 to 2 percentage points larger.

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	924.00	926.47	-0.27
Brussels	BEL-20	2,487.75	2,511.74	-0.96
Frankfurt	DAX	4,184.91	4,223.36	-0.91
Copenhagen	Stock Market	657.85	658.19	-0.05
Helsinki	HEX General	3,421.20	3,456.28	-1.01
Oslo	OBX	691.26	686.93	+0.63
London	FTSE 100	5,177.10	5,187.40	-0.20
Madrid	Stock Exchange	631.71	626.73	+0.79
Milan	MIBTEL	15786	15754	+0.20
Paris	CAC 40	2,959.40	2,932.47	+0.92
Stockholm	SX 16	3,318.35	3,352.93	-1.03
Vienna	ATX	1,323.80	1,303.26	+1.58
Zurich	SPI	3,883.55	3,880.67	+0.08

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Deutsche Lufthansa AG's** cargo unit reached agreement with its five partners — **UAL Corp.'s United Airlines, Thai Airways International, Varig, Air Canada and Scandinavian Airlines System** — to extend their cooperation from passenger transport to freight. Each airline's freight network will be linked through a common computer system.
- **Flag Ltd.** and **Bell Atlantic Corp.**, its biggest shareholder, opened the world's longest undersea fiber-optic cable, a $1.5 billion link extending 17,000 miles (27,200 kilometers) and providing digital communications among Europe, the Middle East and Asia.
- **Universal Studios**, the Hollywood film producer, has filed a complaint with the **European Commission** against the planned digital television merger between the German media giants **Kirch Group** and **Bertelsmann AG**, a commission spokesman said. He gave no further details.
- **Deutsche Bank SpA**, the Italian subsidiary of Germany's largest bank, is setting up Italy's first real-estate mutual fund. The fund will be launched in the first half of 1998 with assets of 300 billion lire ($171.0 million).
- **Tesco PLC**, a British supermarket chain, agreed to sell its French unit **Catteau SA** unit to **Promodes SA** of France for 2.51 billion francs ($419.7 million).
- **Hellenic Telecommunications Organization SA** has approved the acquisition of a 90 percent stake in **ArmenTel**, the Armenian state telephone monopoly, for $142.5 million.
- **France's** finance minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, said he planned to introduce in March or April a series of reforms, notably affecting mutual funds, in a bid to promote Paris as a financial center for the single European currency.
- **Volkswagen AG** has set a goal of selling 5.4 million vehicles in 2002, up from 3.99 million sold in 1996.
- **Air Europe SpA**, an Italian long-haul charter airline, plans to sell up to 49 percent of its equity to the public early next year. *Bloomberg, Reuters*

Euro Aide Seeks French Office

Agence France-Presse

BRUSSELS — Yves Thibault de Silguy, the official charged with steering Europe toward a single currency, intends to run in French regional elections in Brittany in March.

The decision by Mr. de Silguy, the European commissioner in charge of economic and monetary affairs, raised eyebrows among some officials here.

They questioned whether he could realistically expect to juggle electoral campaigning and possible office in France with a role in Brussels during the countdown to the launch of the euro, the common currency, on Jan. 1, 1999.

Mr. de Silguy confirmed Tuesday that he intends to accept an offer from the Gaullist party of President Jacques Chirac of France to stand for president of the Brittany region.

Regional elections in France are set for March 15, the same time that the European Commission is to draw up reports on which countries are ready to join the single currency.

Apart from the practical problems, officials also expressed doubts about whether Mr. de Silguy's planned dual roles were compatible with rules governing outside interests of commission members.

Article 157 of the EU Treaty prohibits members of the EU's executive body from engaging, "in any other occupation, whether gainful or not."

A spokesman for the commission president, Jacques Santer, pointedly declined Tuesday to comment on whether Mr. de Silguy's proposed action was acceptable.

The commissioner had announced only his availability to stand for the post, not confirmed that he would, the spokesman, Klaus Van der Pas, said.

■ Britain Insists on Role

Prime Minister Tony Blair told Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker of Luxembourg on Tuesday that Britain must have a seat on the proposed inner council of countries that will coordinate the EU's single currency, Reuters reported from London.

EU finance ministers failed to agree Dec. 2 on how to include countries such as Britain, which will not be in the first wave adopting the proposed single currency.

British Store Gets Word's Worth by Hiring Own Poet

Reuters

LONDON — *Shelf-stackers of the world unite. For now is the time to recite.*

The British retail chain Marks & Spencer has hired an in-house poet to bring out the wordsmiths on its staff.

Peter Sansom, a 31-year-old poet, is running workshops for the staff.

"Poetry is like dancing. Not all of us can be ballet dancers, but all of us dance. Everyone has a poet inside of them struggling to get out," he said.

He was coy about how much he was being paid, but he is "hopeful of a discount on my favorite lambswool cardigan."

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, Dec. 9

Prices in local currencies.

Telekurs

Amsterdam

AEX index: 924.00 — Previous: 926.47

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	41.90	41.40	41.80	41.90
Aegon	177.20	176.20	176.90	177.30
Ahold	55.50	54.40	54.50	55.50
Akzo Nobel	353	348.90	353	351
Baan Co.	155.90	147	150.60	156
Bols Wess cva	31.40	30.30	30.40	31.50
CSM cva	84.40	83.20	83.40	84.10
Dordtsche Pet	107.60	106.20	106.30	107
DSM	187.50	185.50	185.50	186.90
Elsevier	33.90	33.60	33.60	33.80
Fortis Amev	87.70	86.70	87.70	87.20
Getronics	64.80	63	63.50	64.20
G-Broc cva	54.30	53	53.50	53.40
Hagemeyer	93.90	92	92.30	93.50
Heineken	349	343.50	347.90	349
Hoogovens cva	97	95.80	96.50	96
Hunt Douglas	78	77.70	77.80	78
ING Group	87.80	86.50	87	86.80
KLM	78.50	76.50	78.50	76.30
KNP BT	43.30	42.60	42.80	43.30
KPN	82.60	82	82.10	82.60
Nedlloyd Gp	45.10	44.20	44.30	44.70
Nutricia	61.40	60.10	60.50	61.40
Oce Grinten	229.90	224	224	230
Philips Elec	138.70	135	135.40	136.60
Polygram	103.50	101.50	102.10	102
Randstad Hdg	75.70	73.60	74.60	75.70
Robeco	194	192.50	192.60	193.30
Rodamco	57.90	57	57.30	57.30
Rolinco	182.30	181.80	181.80	180.70
Rorento	120.30	119.50	119.50	119.90
Royal Dutch	109.70	108.30	109	108.60
Unilever cva	123.10	122.40	123.10	123.10
Vendex Intl	114.20	112.50	113.60	112.90
VNU	52.10	50.70	51.40	51.40
Wolters Kl cva	267.80	264	265.30	266.60

Bangkok

SET index: 390.67 — Previous: 401.80

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	222	218	222	220
Bangkok Bk F	130	123	126	129
Krung Thai Bk	12.50	11.50	11.50	12.50
PTT Explor	402	398	400	398
Siam Cement F	398	366	390	394
Siam Com Bk F	72.50	68.50	68.50	70.50
Telecomasia	12	10.50	10.75	11.75
Thai Airways	47.50	46.50	46.75	50
Thai Farm Bk F	119	113	115	116
Utd Comm	27.50	24	24.75	25

Bombay

Sensex 30 index: 3391.59 — Previous: 3468.19

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bajaj Auto	599.50	575	580.75	594.50
Hindust Lever	1346.50	1290	1303	1332.25
Hindust Petlm	453	446	451.50	450.50
Ind Dev Bk	83	82	82.75	83
ITC	621	558	565	619.50
Mahanagar Tel	225	219.25	223	221
Reliance Ind	168.50	154	157.25	166
State Bk India	218	208.25	212.50	216.75
Steel Authority	10.25	9.25	9.75	10.25
Tata Eng Loco	283	271.75	274.25	279

Brussels

BEL-20 index: 2487.75 — Previous: 2511.74

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Almanij	1755	1730	1755	1725
Barco Ind	6850	6750	6780	6840
BBL	10175	10050	10100	10100
CBR	3495	3405	3410	3495
Colruyt	19900	19000	19175	20000
Delhaize Lion	1925	1900	1920	1925
Electrabel	8310	8270	8280	8310
Electrafina	3500	3445	3500	3480
Fortis AG	7630	7570	7590	7600
Gevaert	1740	1680	1710	1690
GBL	5540	5360	5530	5590
Gen Banque	15700	15525	15550	15650
Kredietbank	15325	15100	15300	15300
Petrofina	14400	14225	14225	14475
Powerfin	5190	5180	5180	5190
Royale Belge	10300	9940	9990	10300
Soc Gen Belg	3550	3470	3540	3545
Solvay	2415	2340	2350	2400
Tractebel	3125	3105	3105	3120
UCB	129850	127300	127800	129500

Copenhagen

Stock index: 657.85 — Previous: 658.19

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
BG Bank	495	480	485	490
Carlsberg B	378	369	378	378
Codan Fors	968	965	965	965
Danisco	371.40	363	366.40	368
Den Danske Bk	842.84	834	838	846
D/S Svendbrg B	430000	425000	430000	425000
D/S 1912 B	305000	300000	300000	297000
FLS Ind B	190	174	180	186
Kob Lufthavne	790.79	790	790	792
Nvo Nordisk B	920	904	910	907
Sophus Ber B	1090	1070	1077.50	1080
Tele Danmk B	434	419.09	429.12	428
Tryg Baltica	432	424	432	430
Unidanmark A	512	483	510	500

Frankfurt

DAX: 4184.91 — Previous: 4223.36

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB B	175	170	171.30	173.90
Adidas	271.25	269.50	269.50	265.30
Allianz	438	436	437.50	438.30
Altana	127	123.40	123.40	123.40
Asn Colonia	169	167	168.50	164
Bk Berlin	38.05	37.45	37.45	37.95
BASF	64.25	63.50	64	64.35
Bayer Hypo Bk	84.30	83.50	83.70	86.45
Bay.Vereinsbank	115.80	114.70	115.70	117.30
Bayer	66.70	65.90	65.90	67.45
Beiersdorf	78	77.20	78	77.30
Bewag	45.15	44.60	45.15	44.15
BMW	1414	1401	1414	1443
Commerzbank	68.60	67.60	68.10	66.35
Daimler Benz	127.40	125.80	126.15	128.50
Degussa	92.50	91	91.50	91.70
Deutsche Bank	125.10	122.60	124.30	121.85
Deut Telekom	35.35	34.80	34.90	35.80
Dresdner Bank	81.80	80.70	81.40	78.95
Fresenius	287	284	284	286
Fresenius Med	115.50	114	115	113
Fried. Krupp	353	350	350	357
Gehe	101.50	100.60	101.10	98.50
Heidelbg Zml	141.50	139	139.50	142
Henkel pfd	112.90	110.50	112.90	113.50
HEW	470	465	465	465
Hochtief	76	74.70	75	75.10
Hoechst	64.50	63.90	63.90	64.35
Karstadt	650	640	643	652
Lahmeyer	77.90	77	77.90	77.50
Linde	1142	1130	1130	1150
Lufthansa R	35.10	34.45	34.74	34.50
MAN	549	542	546	546
Mannesmann	879	876	876	881
Metallgesellschaft	33.90	33.80	33.80	33.85
Metro	83.20	81.90	82.50	83.20
Munch Rueck R	620	608	614.50	606
Preussag	517.50	513	516	519
RWE	97	93.50	93.90	97.65
SAP	558	552	555.50	562
Schering	185.80	182.50	182.50	182.80
SGL Carbon	234	230	230.50	239.50
Siemens	109.80	109	109.30	111.25
Springer (Axel)	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	1380
Suedzucker	920	910	916	920
Thyssen	415	412	413.90	419.50
Veba	113.85	112.50	112.50	115.80
VEW	556	556	560	560
Viag	963	948	960	989.50
Volkswagen	1029	1009	1009	1037

Helsinki

HEX General index: 3421.20 — Previous: 3456.28

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Enso A	47	47	47	48
Huhtamaki I	228	225	225	228
Kemira	51.90	51.50	51.90	51.90
Kesko	84	83	84	84
Merita A	27.10	26.90	26.90	27
Metra B	132	128.50	128.50	129.20
Metsa-Serla B	48.50	48	48	48.50
Neste	127	126	127	128
Nokia A	436	414	422.10	435
Orion-Yhtymae	150	148	148.50	214
Outokumpu	73.30	72.70	72.70	72.90
UPM-Kymmene	113	111	111	112
Valmet	79	79	79	79

Hong Kong

Hang Seng: 11498.66 — Previous: 11722.94

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	7	6.90	6.90	7.05
Bk East Asia	19.40	18.80	18.90	19.30
Cathay Pacific	7.15	6.95	7.15	7.10
Cheung Kong	57	55.25	55.25	57.25
CK Infrastruct	23.20	22.75	23	23.10
China Light	43	41.10	41.30	43
Citic Pacific	34.70	33.40	34.30	33.80
Dao Heng Bk	22.55	21.95	22.05	22.55
First Pacific	5.50	5.40	5.45	5.45
Hang Lung Dev	11.80	11.55	11.60	11.90
Hang Seng Bk	78.50	75.50	76.25	78.50
Henderson Inv	7	6.70	6.70	7
Henderson Ld	40.90	39.90	40.30	40.90
HK China Gas	15	14.45	14.60	15.20
HK Electric	29.80	28.85	29.10	29.95
HK Telecomm	16.80	16.25	16.50	16.70
Hopewell Hdgs	2.23	2.15	2.18	2.23
HSBC Hdgs	210	203	205	209
Hutchison Wh	55.50	53.25	54	55.50
Hysan Dev	16.70	16.30	16.35	16.75
Johnson El Hdg	24.10	22.20	24.10	21.95
Kerry Props	14.20	13.80	14.20	14
New World Dev	31.80	30.80	31.30	31.90
Oriental Press	2.33	2.28	2.30	2.33
Pearl Oriental	0.43	0.41	0.41	0.42
SHK Props	63.50	62	62.50	64.25
Shun Tak Hdgs	2.78	2.70	2.70	2.83
Sino Land Co.	5.25	5.05	5.15	5.20
Sth China Post	6.20	6.15	6.15	6.20
Swire Pac A	46.20	45	45.50	46
Wharf Hdgs	17.60	16.70	17	17.55
Wheelock	9.95	9.55	9.55	9.85

Jakarta

Composite index: 415.50 — Previous: 422.61

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	2325	2075	2325	2075
Bk Intl Indon	525	475	475	525
Bk Negara	600	550	550	600
Gudang Garm	8850	8300	8650	8675
Indocement	1500	1475	1475	1500
Indofood	2850	2650	2700	2600
Indosat	9600	8850	9175	9250
Sampoerna HM	5050	4875	4925	5075
Semen Gresik	3150	2925	3025	3000
Telekomunikasi	3275	3100	3225	3075

Johannesburg

All Market: 6158.82 — Previous: 6153.92

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABSA Group	28.50	27.60	28.35	27.25
AngloAm Coal	226	224	224	225
AngloAm-Corp	200.40	195	200.20	196
AngloAm Gold	171.80	166	169.80	172
AngloAm Ind	114	104	114	112
AngloAM Plat	73.50	73.10	73.30	74.80
AVMIN	6.05	5.90	5.95	6
Barlow	42.85	42	42.60	43.25
C.G. Smith	20	19.90	20	20
De Beers	99.60	98.90	99.20	99.80
Driefontein	32	31	31.60	31.65
Fst Natl Bk	41	40.80	41	41
Gencor	7.80	7.65	7.75	7.80
GFSA	71	66	68.40	62.10
Imperial Hdgs	57.50	56	56	58
Ingwe Coal	17.70	17.50	17.55	17.15
Iscor	1.96	1.90	1.96	2
Johnnies Indl	49.55	49.50	49.50	49.50
Liberty Hdgs	328	327.60	327.60	329.80
Liberty Life	121.20	120	120.60	120
LibLife Strat	16	15.15	16	16
Minorco	86.60	85.80	86.60	86.40
Nampak	15.25	15	15.10	15.80
Nedcor	107	106.80	107	107
Rembrandt Gp	36.70	36.40	36.50	36.70
Richemont	54.30	52	52.50	52
SA Breweries	119.80	118.60	119	120
Samancor	24.50	24.50	24.50	24.50
Sasol	50	49.65	49.85	49.50
SBIC	207	205	207	211.60
Tiger Oats	67.50	67.20	67.30	68

Kuala Lumpur

Composite: 629.15 — Previous: 676.47

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMMB Hdgs	3.54	3.06	3.06	3.54
Genting	10.70	9.70	10.10	10.78
Mal Banking	12.50	11.40	11.40	12.60
Mal Intl Ship F	5.95	5.45	5.80	5.65
Petronas Gas	9.75	8.90	9	9.80
Proton	5.25	5	5.10	5.25
Public Bk	2.25	2.09	2.10	2.23
Renong	Susp.	Susp.	Susp.	1.80
Resorts World	7	6.35	6.55	7
Rothmans PM	32.25	31.50	32	32
Sime Darby	4.30	3.96	4.08	4.32
Telekom Mal	11.80	10.50	10.90	11.90
Tenaga	9	7.70	7.75	9.05
Utd Engineers	Susp.	Susp.	Susp.	3.24
YTL	5.25	4.70	5.15	5.30

London

FT-SE 100: 5177.10 — Previous: 5187.40

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	10.29	10.02	10.21	10.22
Allied Domecq	5.49	5.37	5.42	5.50
Anglian Water	8.32	8.22	8.22	8.36
Argos	6.22	6.14	6.15	6.18
Asda Group	1.80	1.71	1.74	1.74
Assoc Br Foods	5.55	5.46	5.50	5.54
BAA	5.18	4.95	4.95	5.13
Barclays	16.52	15.70	16.28	15.72
Bass	9.15	9	9.07	9.07
BAT Ind	5.58	5.45	5.57	5.49
Bank Scotland	5.75	5.17	5.70	5.64
Blue Circle	3.44	3.20	3.39	3.34
BOC Group	10.07	9.86	9.96	9.88
Boots	9.04	8.81	8.93	9.05
BPB Ind	3.32	3.25	3.32	3.28
Brit Aerosp	17.72	16.90	17.65	16.65
Brit Airways	5.71	5.56	5.64	5.57
BG	2.95	2.86	2.89	2.91
Brit Land	6.71	6.52	6.60	6.74
Brit Petm	8.64	8.45	8.51	8.63
BSkyB	4.73	4.42	4.66	4.62
Brit Steel	1.45	1.42	1.43	1.44
Brit Telecom	4.77	4.44	4.74	4.75
BTR	2	1.75	1.78	1.78
Burmah Castrol	10.66	10.19	10.66	10.25
Burton Gp	1.45	1.42	1.43	1.46
Cable Wireless	5.56	5.38	5.45	5.43
Cadbury Schw	6.39	6.22	6.35	6.25
Carlton Comm	4.67	4.56	4.58	4.68
Comml Union	8.99	8.77	8.88	8.85
Compass Gp	7.22	7.09	7.21	7.19
Courtaulds	3.05	3	3.01	3.05
Dixons	6.60	6.36	6.46	6.70
Electrocomponents	4.68	4.63	4.65	4.67
EMI Group	4.89	4.79	4.87	4.80
Energy Group	6.49	6.31	6.34	6.42
Enterprise Oil	6.14	6.02	6.07	6.11
Fors Colonial	1.76	1.73	1.75	1.75
Genl Accident	11	10.61	10.79	10.85
GEC	4.13	4.06	4.08	4.11
GKN	13.20	12.88	13.11	13.31
Glaxo Wellcome	14.50	14.28	14.49	14.33
Granada Gp	8.75	8.32	8.53	8.60
Grand Met	5.82	5.78	5.81	5.84
GRE	3.30	3.16	3.26	3.18
Greenalls Gp	4.33	4.10	4.20	4.34
Guinness	5.85	5.78	5.80	5.85
GUS	7.38	7.23	7.34	7.34
Hays	8.03	7.87	7.89	7.99
HSBC Hldgs	16.35	16.02	16.20	16.48
ICI	9.10	8.82	9	8.82
Impl Tobacco	3.93	3.88	3.90	3.93
Kingfisher	8.57	8.30	8.47	8.50
Ladbroke	2.85	2.81	2.83	2.83
Land Sec	10.13	9.98	10.05	10.10
Lasmo	2.81	2.75	2.77	2.77
Legal Genl Grp	5.25	5.17	5.21	5.23
Lloyds TSB Gp	7.90	7.56	7.81	7.84
LucasVarity	1.95	1.89	1.91	1.91
Marks Spencer	6.43	6.22	6.34	6.56
MEPC	5.50	5.43	5.46	5.48
Mercury Asset	16.76	16.71	16.72	16.69
National Grid	3.01	2.93	2.96	3
Natl Power	6.03	5.83	5.98	6.02
NatWest	10.28	9.88	10.05	9.92
Next	7.34	7.02	7.15	7.43
Norwich Union	3.91	3.69	3.86	3.90
Orange	2.75	2.58	2.69	2.73
P&O	6.78	6.57	6.73	6.78
Pearson	8.49	8.34	8.45	8.41
Pilkington	1.25	1.21	1.22	1.23
PowerGen	8	7.81	7.91	7.99
Premier Farnell	4.28	4.20	4.21	4.18
Prudential	7.18	7.11	7.14	7.16
Railtrack Gp	10.95	10.75	10.78	11.03
Rank Group	3.51	3.43	3.49	3.52
Reckitt Colm	9.57	9.03	9.30	9.65
Redland	3.45	3.42	3.42	3.43
Reed Intl	6.35	6.17	6.31	6.21
Rentokil Initial	2.60	2.58	2.59	2.59
Reuters Hldgs	7.17	6.95	7.15	7.18
Rexam	2.92	2.75	2.82	2.89
RTZ reg	8	7.75	7.92	7.84
RMC Group	9.24	9.01	9.06	9.04
Rolls Royce	2.48	2.43	2.46	2.45
Royal Bk Scot	7.90	7.55	7.75	7.58
Royal & Sun All	6.45	6	6.15	5.97
Safeway	3.41	3.21	3.30	3.29
Sainsbury	5.20	5.05	5.15	5.19
Schroders	19.20	18.78	19.06	19.14
Scot Newcastle	7.59	7.27	7.41	7.52
Scot Power	5.16	5.04	5.15	5.16
Securicor	3.12	2.92	3.07	2.90
Severn Trent	9.97	9.90	9.90	9.99
Shell Transp R	4.49	4.41	4.42	4.44
Siebe	12.55	12.38	12.41	12.43
Smith Nephew	1.82	1.79	1.81	1.78
SmithKline	6.41	6.19	6.24	6.44
Smiths Ind	9.18	8.80	8.87	8.96
Sthern Elec	5.04	4.85	4.98	4.98
Stagecoach	7.83	7.70	7.76	7.72
Stand Charter	7.71	7.51	7.55	7.67
Tate & Lyle	4.87	4.80	4.85	4.81
Tesco	5.19	5.05	5.05	5.33
Thames Water	9.60	9.31	9.45	9.60
3i Group	5.16	5	5.11	5.14
TI Group	5.31	5.15	5.27	5.21
Tomkins	3.07	2.94	2.99	3.06
Unilever	5.09	5.02	5.06	5.04
Utd Assurance	5.34	5.15	5.16	5.20
Utd News	7.72	7.63	7.65	7.71
Utd Utilities	7.69	7.52	7.61	7.70
Vendome Lx uts	4.69	4.67	4.69	4.69
Vodafone	4.11	3.98	4.03	4.03
Whitbread	8.73	8.62	8.62	8.78
Williams Hdgs	3.40	3.26	3.30	3.42
Wolseley	5.01	4.80	4.84	4.88
WPP Group	2.70	2.66	2.68	2.68
Zeneca	19.85	19.55	19.85	19.76

Madrid

Bolsa index: 631.71 — Previous: 626.50

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	24900	24600	24640	24670
ACESA	2035	2005	2035	2035
Aguas Barcelon	6420	6300	6390	6390
Argentaria	9930	9710	9840	9760
BBV	4725	4670	4700	4690
Banesto	1425	1410	1420	1420
Bankinter	8560	8300	8490	8400
Bco Centro Hisp	3300	3090	3285	3100
Bco Popular	10210	10000	10180	9990
Bco Santander	4745	4680	4725	4675
CEPSA	4680	4600	4655	4650
Continente	2960	2845	2860	2890
Corp Mapfre	7840	7660	7830	7710
Endesa	2885	2830	2885	2840
FECSA	1355	1315	1335	1340
Gas Natural	7850	7430	7730	7500
Iberdrola	2095	2030	2080	2050
Pryca	2415	2310	2350	2395
Repsol	6570	6490	6510	6510
Sevillana Elec	1455	1425	1430	1445
Tabacalera	11820	11560	11690	11590
Telefonica	4625	4560	4600	4585
Union Fenosa	1510	1490	1500	1505
Valenc Cement	2935	2880	2900	2860

Manila

PSE index: 1979.58 — Previous: 1957.21

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala	16	14.75	16	14.75
Ayala Land	16	15.25	15.50	16.25
Bk Philip Isl	91	89	91	90
C&P Homes	2.50	2.42	2.44	2.60
Manila Elec A	80.50	77.50	80.50	80
Metro Bank	290	277.50	290	277.50
Petron	3.75	3.65	3.75	3.60
PCIBank	139	137	137	139
Phil Long Dist	930	910	925	920
San Miguel B	54.50	53.50	54.50	53
SM Prime Hdg	6.20	6	6.10	6

Mexico

Bolsa index: 5094.33 — Previous: 5110.38

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	61.60	60.80	61.20	61.80
Banacci B	21.10	20.70	21.00	21.00
Cemex CPO	36.30	35.90	35.90	36.50
Cifra C	17.06	16.80	17.06	16.90
Emp Modema	39.80	39.50	39.50	40.00
Gpo Carso A1	56.50	55.00	55.80	55.50
Gpo F Bcomer	3.17	3.10	3.16	3.16
Gpo Fin Inbursa	32.50	32.40	32.50	33.25
Kimb Clark Mex	38.00	37.70	37.95	38.00
Televisa CPO	158.20	154.70	157.20	157.50
TelMex L	21.45	21.35	21.40	21.50

Milan

MIB Telematico: 15786.00 — Previous: 15754.00

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	16800	16400	16600	16700
Bca Comm Ital	5375	5180	5350	5130
Bca Fideuram	7840	7650	7840	7650
Bca di Roma	1530	1480	1530	1470
Benetton	28250	27800	28000	28000
Credito Italiano	5360	5090	5310	5065
Edison	10450	10225	10310	10250
ENI	9965	9800	9845	9885
Fiat	5110	4990	4995	5105
Generali Assic	40250	39800	40250	39900
IMI	19350	18900	19345	18570
INA	3095	3050	3090	3085
Italgas	6990	6855	6885	6860
Mediaset	8405	8285	8355	8300
Mediobanca	13095	12930	13070	12780
Montedison	1522	1502	1513	1521
Olivetti	980	969	977	976
Parmalat	2575	2470	2540	2570
Pirelli	4615	4460	4470	4545
RAS	16200	16080	16085	16155
Rolo Banca	25300	24900	25380	25100
S Paolo Torino	17250	16090	17000	15790
Telecom Italia	11040	10795	10870	11090
TIM	7295	7195	7250	7340

Montreal

Industrials index: 3409.55 — Previous: 3430.34

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bca Mob Com	39	37½	37½	39¼
Cdn Tire A	31½	31	31.20	30¼
Cdn Util A	40.55	40½	40.55	40¼
CT Finl Svc	53½	52½	52½	52¼
Gaz Metro	18.55	18.30	18.40	18.60
Gt-West Lifeco	36¼	35.90	36¼	35.65
Imasco	51¼	50.70	50.70	51¼
Investors Grp	42.90	42.90	42.90	43¼
Loblaw Cos	24.80	24.60	24.80	24.65
Natl Bk Canada	25.15	23.60	24.60	23.90
Power Corp	48½	47½	47.80	47¼
Power Finl	46¼	46.30	46½	46.20
Quebecor B	28.10	27.80	27.85	27.90
Rogers Comm B	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.35
Royal Bk Cda	81.20	79½	80.30	79.85

Oslo

OBX index: 691.26 — Previous: 686.93

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	134	131	132	130.50
Bergesen Dy A	193.50	192.50	192.50	192
Christiania Bk	28.40	27.30	27.30	27.30
Den norske Bk	33.50	30.30	32	32.20
Elkem	99	97	98	98
Hafslund A	45	45	45	44
Kvaerner	394	382	386	387
Norsk Hydro	386.50	379	379	380.50
Norske Skog A	227	223	223	223
Nycomed Amer	187	185	186	187
Orkla A	639	633	635	640
Petm GeoSvc	480	472	472	470
Saga Petm A	139	137	137	138
Schibsted	139	125	127	129
Transocean Off	368	367.50	368	350
Storebrand	51	50	50	50

Paris

CAC-40: 2959.40 — Previous: 2932.47

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	1175	1127	1133	1157
AGF	331	326.50	327.30	329.60
Air Liquide	946	927	940	930
Alcatel Alsth	787	764	782	764
Axa-UAP	454.70	448.20	452	449
Bancaire	996	944	989	941
BIC	439	420	428.80	435
BNP	328.70	313.50	322.80	313.60
Canal Plus	1014	991	1000	1010
Carrefour	3089	3051	3066	3064
Casino	336.80	334.60	336.80	335
CCF	422	398.10	417	400
Cetelem	846	810	843	804
Christian Dior	638	624	635	632
Credit Agricole	1150	1116	1116	1125
Danone	998	990	994	994
Dexia Fran	692	676	691	682
Elf-Aquitaine	698	687	697	680
Eridania BS	977	959	969	970
Eurodisney	7.45	7.10	7.25	7.45
Eurotunnel	6.30	6.10	6.20	6.35
France Telecom	218	216.10	217.30	217.80
Gen. Eaux	799	776	780	797
Havas	425	415.30	422.80	417
Imetal	714	705	714	713
Lafarge	391.80	386.20	389	387.10
Legrand	1200	1169	1200	1180
L'Oreal	2357	2275	2320	2299
LVMH	1065	1030	1060	1030
Michelin B	333	321.50	325.10	332.20
Paribas A	498.70	467.90	492.60	461.50
Pernod Ricard	324	320.40	322	323
Peugeot Cit	742	718	719	719
Pinault-Print	3238	3131	3201	3159
Promodes	2355	2326	2350	2329
Renault	182	177.20	178	179.90
Rexel	1850	1825	1825	1890
Rh-Poulenc A	275	267.50	272.80	268.80
Sanofi	610	596	599	610
Schneider	344.50	332.30	336.40	330
SEB	810	800	808	811
SGS Thomson	411	392.10	398.50	407
Ste Generale	852	825	846	825
Sodexho	3360	3305	3320	3405
St Gobain	841	827	838	834
Suez (Cie)	15.95	15.95	15.95	15.40
Suez Lyon Eaux	654	646	651	650
Synthelabo	784	759	760	784
Thomson CSF	176.50	163	175.50	165
Total B	625	615	622	614
Usinor	93	89.90	91	92.35
Valeo	421	408.20	415.50	412

São Paulo

Bovespa index: 9824.17 — Previous: 10078.91

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bradesco Pfd	9.05	8.90	9.05	9.00
Brahma Pfd	720.00	710.00	710.00	725.00
Cemig Pfd	49.80	48.00	48.010	49.80
CESP Pfd	72.50	69.00	69.99	72.50
Copel	13.24	12.90	12.90	13.240
Eletrobras	538.00	528.00	538.00	539.00
Itaubanco Pfd	513.00	506.00	510.01	506.00
Light Servicos	440.00	405.02	406.50	450.00
Lightpar	289.99	280.00	289.99	290.00
Petrobras Pfd	264.00	255.00	260.00	265.00
Paulista Luz	146.00	143.50	144.00	149.00
Sid Nacional	33.00	32.00	32.70	32.50
Souza Cruz	8.450	8.40	8.45	8.45
Telebras Pfd	125.00	122.02	122.40	126.30
Telemig	127.99	124.99	124.99	126.00
Telerj	112.050	104.00	112.050	115.50
Telesp Pfd	319.99	308.00	314.00	324.00
Unibanco	40.00	38.99	40.00	39.00
Usiminas Pfd	7.00	6.75	6.77	6.90
CVRD Pfd	20.50	20.20	20.40	20.75

Seoul

Composite index: 388.00 — Previous: 414.83

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Dacom	64000	59800	59800	65000
Daewoo Heavy	5490	5060	5060	5490
Hyundai Eng.	10300	9000	9600	9600
Kia Motors	6640	6640	6640	6150
Korea El Pwr	15500	15000	15000	16300
Korea Exch Bk	3890	3690	3690	4010
LG Semicon	17500	16300	16400	17500
Pohang Iron St	49000	46300	46300	50300
Samsung Display	33500	32200	32200	35000
Samsung Elec	41200	39100	39100	42400
Shinhan Bank	7300	6840	6840	7430
SK Telecom	488000	460000	460000	500000

Singapore

Straits Times: 1734.27 — Previous: 1753.63

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Pac Brew	4.68	4.60	4.60	4.70
Cerebos Pac	5	4.76	4.88	5
City Devlts	8.75	8.30	8.55	8.45
Cycle Carriage	7.65	7.10	7.25	7.55
Dairy Farm Int*	0.97	0.87	0.87	0.93
DBS foreign	17.10	15.90	16.90	16.50
DBS Land	2.96	2.89	2.92	2.92
Fraser & Neave	9.65	9.10	9.65	9.25
HK Land*	2.29	2.15	2.16	2.25
Jard Matheson*	5.20	4.98	4.98	5.15
Jard Strategic*	2.75	2.68	2.74	2.75
Keppel A	5.75	5.45	5.50	5.75
Keppel Bank	2.95	2.86	2.95	2.86
Keppel Fels	4.70	4.68	4.70	4.72
Keppel Land	2.93	2.80	2.90	2.80
OCBC foreign	11.20	10.50	11	11.10
OS Union Bk F	7.05	6.70	6.85	6.85
Parkway Hdgs	4.04	3.78	4.02	3.76
Sembawang	5.55	5.45	5.50	5.50
Sing Air foreign	12.10	11.70	11.80	12
Sing Land	4.70	4.62	4.66	4.72
Sing Press F	23.50	22.80	22.80	23.10
Sing Tech Ind	1.78	1.68	1.70	1.75
Sing Telecomm	3.18	3.10	3.12	3.22
Tat Lee Bank	2.76	2.68	2.74	2.67
Utd Industrial	0.74	0.73	0.74	0.74
Utd O'Sea Bk F	11.40	11.10	11.30	11.30
Wing Tai Hdgs	2.20	2.13	2.13	2.18

*: in U.S. dollars.

Stockholm

SX 16 index: 3318.35 — Previous: 3352.93

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA B	105.50	102.50	103	104.50
ABB A	98	97	97	97.50
AssiDoman	207	206	207	206
Astra A	142	138.50	139	139.50
Atlas Copco A	259	252	252.50	256.50
Autoliv	293	290.50	292	293
Electrolux B	637	628	628	633
Ericsson B	315.50	304.50	307	315
Forenings Spar	200.50	196	200	200
Hennes B	359	353.50	354.50	360
Incentive A	714	706	706	715
Investor B	385	377	377	381
MoDo B	221	219	219	221
Pharm/Upjohn	281.50	278	281.50	281
Sandvik B	258	249	251.50	253.50
Scania B	187	177	179	185
SCA B	184	177	177	179
S-E Banken A	94	92	92.50	93.50
Skandia Fors	417	404	409	408.50
Skanska B	330.50	322	327	324
SKF B	179	173	175	178.50
Stora A	103	99.50	100.50	99
Sv Handels A	300	274	292	290
Volvo B	224.50	220	220.50	222

Sydney

All Ordinaries: 2582.80 — Previous: 2587.80

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	6.85	6.75	6.84	6.83
ANZ Bkng	10.82	10.70	10.70	10.78
BHP	14.42	14.24	14.32	14.40
Boral	3.90	3.76	3.89	3.78
Brambles Ind.	28.60	28.25	28.45	28.55
CBA	17.30	17.13	17.18	17.30
CC Amatil	11.25	10.98	11.15	11.25
Coles Myer	7.52	7.39	7.43	7.51
Comalco	6.29	6.22	6.27	6.30
CSR	5.03	4.99	5.03	5.07
Fosters Brew	2.78	2.72	2.76	2.78
Goodman Fld	2.31	2.17	2.22	2.32
ICI Australia	11.10	11	11.10	11
Lend Lease	31.30	30.90	31.25	31
MIM Hdgs	1.19	1.16	1.18	1.19
Nat Aust Bank	21	20.70	20.70	20.85
Nat Mutual Hdg	2.41	2.35	2.37	2.38
News Corp	8.46	8.38	8.45	8.38
Pacific Dunlop	3.37	3.28	3.33	3.33
Pioneer Intl	4.02	3.96	3.98	3.98
Pub Broadcast	8.75	8.58	8.75	8.69
Rio Tinto	17.85	17.48	17.79	17.40
St George Bank	8.71	8.60	8.63	8.71
WMC	5.18	4.91	5.08	5.12
Westpac Bkng	9.47	9.40	9.43	9.48
Woodside Pet	11.32	11.13	11.20	11.25
Woolworths	4.82	4.69	4.69	4.81

Taipei

Stock Market index: 8222.49 — Previous: 8402.17

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cathay Life Ins	143	140	140	138.50
Chang Hwa Bk	94	91	91.50	91.50
Chiao Tung Bk	73.50	70	70	72.50
China Develpmt	98	92.50	92.50	95.50
China Steel	25.40	24.50	24.50	24.60
First Bank	93.50	91	91	91.50
Formosa Plastic	60	58	59	59.50
Hua Nan Bk	98.50	95.50	95.50	96.50
Intl Comm Bk	55.50	54	54	54.50
Nan Ya Plastics	58	56	56.50	57.50
Shin Kong Life	97.50	94	94	93.50
Taiwan Semi	131	126	126	129.50
Tatung	38.20	36.70	36.90	37.50
Utd Micro Elec	75.50	72.50	74	73.50
Utd World Chin	59	56	56	58

Tokyo

Nikkei 225: 16486.51 — Previous: 16131.57

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ajinomoto	1210	1170	1210	1150
All Nippon Air	573	555	573	555
Amway	2670	2440	2670	2440
Asahi Bank	562	533	555	526
Asahi Chem	547	516	525	540
Asahi Glass	795	743	766	745
Bk Tokyo Mitsu	1850	1790	1840	1770
Bk Yokohama	357	350	354	350
Bridgestone	3050	2950	2970	2990
Canon	3350	3290	3350	3260
Chubu Elec	1990	1960	1980	1960
Chugoku Elec	1860	1840	1860	1830
Dai Nipp Print	2560	2500	2540	2470
Daiei	590	540	590	525
Dai-Ichi Kang	999	965	980	955
Daiwa Bank	330	316	327	311
Daiwa House	949	927	942	927
Daiwa Sec	471	450	451	405
DDI	3470a	3380a	3430a	3410a
Denso	2460	2420	2460	2400
East Japan Ry	5870a	5820a	5870a	5800a
Eisai	1920	1880	1900	1890
Fanuc	5070	4960	4990	4900
Fuji Bank	687	653	670	643
Fuji Photo	5030	4890	4930	4800
Fujitsu	1480	1460	1470	1440
Hachijuni Bk	1080	1050	1050	1050
Hitachi	957	940	955	940
Honda Motor	5000	4910	4960	4890
IBJ	1150	1130	1150	1120
IHI	260	255	258	260
Itochu	289	272	279	292
Ito-Yokado	6110	5900	6100	5900
JAL	380	374	375	380
Japan Tobacco	9550a	9430a	9550a	9480a
Jusco	2130	2090	2110	2080
Kajima	434	416	434	414
Kansai Elec	2120	2070	2100	2100
Kao	1780	1750	1780	1750
Kawasaki Hvy	268	257	262	258
Kawa Steel	192	185	188	176
Kinki Nipp Ry	701	695	697	699
Kirin Brewery	994	960	981	932
Kobe Steel	112	106	109	106
Komatsu	765	745	765	737
Kubota	430	416	430	401
Kyocera	6240	6140	6170	6090
Kyushu Elec	1900	1860	1870	1890
LTCB	234	223	231	213
Marubeni	275	266	266	266
Marui	2010	1950	1980	1940
Matsu Comm	3870	3840	3860	3850
Matsu Elec Ind	1980	1930	1940	1970
Matsu Elec Wk	1040	1010	1030	1000
Mitsubishi	1040	1020	1040	1010
Mitsubishi Ch	228	215	220	214
Mitsubishi El	345	328	337	328
Mitsubishi Est	1640	1590	1640	1540
Mitsubishi Hvy	526	505	518	496
Mitsubishi Mat	416	408	411	401
Mitsubishi Tr	1580	1540	1570	1500
Mitsui	890	861	871	881
Mitsui Fudosn	1390	1350	1390	1300
Mitsui Trust	262	253	257	251
Murata Mfg	3830	3810	3820	3910
NEC	1400	1380	1480	1360
Nikon	1520	1460	1510	1440
Nikko Sec	435	415	428	400
Nintendo	13700	13200	13200	13300
Nipp Express	634	616	624	621
Nippon Oil	417	402	411	387
Nippon Steel	211	205	205	207
Nissan Motor	513	503	506	500
NKK	126	117	122	114
Nomura Sec	1660	1630	1640	1620
NTT	1120b	1100b	1110b	1080b
NTT Data	7000b	6840b	6990b	6910b
Oji Paper	515	484	504	485
Osaka Gas	295	282	295	285
Ricoh	1710	1640	1680	1620
Rohm	13700	13500	13600	13300
Sakura Bk	462	445	445	426
Sankyo	3120	3070	3090	3060
Sanwa Bank	1460	1400	1440	1390
Sanyo Elec	359	345	359	347
Secom	8000	7800	7990	7630
Seibu Rwy	5990	5800	5990	5800
Sekisui Chem	861	820	832	874
Sekisui House	890	870	880	875
Seven-Eleven	9190	9020	9190	9020
Sharp	860	840	860	830
Shikoku El Pwr	1880	1850	1860	1840
Shimizu	430	407	410	398
Shin-etsu Ch	3150	3050	3140	2990
Shiseido	1800	1770	1800	1790
Shizuoka Bk	1280	1220	1270	1220
Softbank	2900	2790	2790	2830
Sony	12200	11900	12200	12000
Sumitomo	830	811	828	798
Sumitomo Bk	1580	1550	1580	1530
Sumit Chem	390	374	378	380
Sumitomo Elec	1750	1720	1740	1710
Sumit Metal	240	233	239	223
Sumit Trust	812	790	810	790
Taisho Pharm	3290	3250	3290	3200
Takeda Chem	3780	3740	3780	3750
TDK	10900	10700	10900	10600
Tohoku El Pwr	1900	1870	1900	1870
Tokai Bank	693	662	682	657
Tokio Marine	1180	1140	1150	1120
Tokyo El Pwr	2270	2220	2250	2200
Tokyo Electron	5790	5480	5740	5310
Tokyo Gas	299	287	297	296
Tokyu Corp.	531	519	523	523
Tonen	940	913	930	902
Toppan Print	1740	1680	1730	1670
Toray Ind	606	585	595	594
Toshiba	540	527	536	528
Tostem	1270	1190	1220	1190
Toyo Trust	816	795	813	790
Toyota Motor	3720	3680	3720	3660
Yamanouchi	3180	3150	3180	3120

a: x 100; b: x 1,000

Toronto

TSE Industrials: 6780.58 — Previous: 6787.71

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Cons.	20.70	20.20	20.45	20.40
Alberta Energy	28.90	28.65	28.65	28¼
Alcan Alum	41	40.55	40.70	40.70
Anderson Expl	13.85	13.60	13.70	13.70
Bk Montreal	67.40	65.60	67⅛	65.80
Bk Nova Scotia	69.30	67⅛	68.90	67.90
Barrick Gold	22.20	21½	21.80	22.55
BCE	48.15	46.80	47½	47.20
BC Telecomm	41¼	40	41¼	40.15
Biochem Pharm	40	39.10	40	40
Bombardier B	29.85	29.40	29.45	29.90
Cameco	49.80	49.30	49.80	49½
CIBC	47.45	46.30	47.10	46½
Cdn Natl Rail	74¼	73⅛	73¼	74¼
Cdn Nat Res	33.40	32¼	33	33¼
Cdn Occid Pet	34.35	32.70	34.35	32.90
Cdn Pacific	41.85	41¼	41.30	41.80
Cominco	21.95	21.10	21½	21.85
Dofasco	22.60	22.35	22.40	22.35
Domtar	10½	10.35	10.45	10½
Donohue A	25¼	25.15	25¼	25½
Du Pont Cda A	35½	34½	35	34½
EdperBrascan	26.20	25¼	25.80	26.20
Euronev Mng	14¼	13¼	13.85	14.35
Fairfax Finl	338	338	338	338
Falconbridge	17.95	17½	17.55	18
Fletcher Chall A	20	19¼	19.90	19.95
Franco Nevada	24.10	22.65	23.90	24.15
Gulf Cda Res	11.40	11.10	11.15	11.30
Imperial Oil	87.35	84.90	87.20	87
Inco	26.90	26.30	26½	27
IPL Energy	63½	62	62½	62.30
Laidlaw B	19.35	19.10	19.20	19.10
Loewen Group	35.20	34¼	34.70	34¼
Macmill Bldl	15.45	15¼	15¼	15.40
Magna Intl A	94½	93.70	94.20	94.35
Methanex	12.40	12¼	12.30	12¼
Moore	22.45	22.30	22.40	22½
Newbridge Net	60	55	55.85	60¼
Noranda Inc	25.95	25.40	25.55	25.45
Norcen Energy	17.20	16½	17.20	16½
Nthern Telecom	140½	136½	138	140.35
Nova	13.30	13.10	13.30	13.20
Onex	30.20	29¾	30	29.85
Pancdn Petlm	24	23.35	24	23.60
Petro Cda	27.85	27.40	27½	27.80
Placer Dome	15.55	14.95	15.10	15.60
Poco Petlm	11.90	11.60	11¾	12.10
Potash Sask	118½	115½	117½	115¾
Renaissance	30.55	29.90	30.15	30.10
Rio Algom	26¾	26¼	26.60	26¼
Rogers Cantel B	13.10	12.70	12.70	13.70
Seagram Co	46	45.40	45.55	45.80
Shell Cda A	27.60	27.20	27.60	27½
Suncor	49.80	47.35	47.80	49
Talisman Eny	46½	45	45.80	45.05
Teck B	20¼	19½	19½	20.40
Teleglobe	46¼	45½	46.05	46.35
Telus	32.95	31¾	32.80	31.40
Thomson	38¼	37.85	38.10	39
TorDom Bank	55¼	53.65	54.90	53.90
Transalta	21.05	20.55	20.95	20.65
TransCda Pipe	31.10	30.90	30.95	31.05
Trimark Finl	69½	68¼	68¼	68½
Trizec Hahn	35.15	34.90	35.15	35
TVX Gold	3.54	3.30	3.40	3.65
Westcoast Eny	33.30	33.05	33¼	33.15
Weston	114¾	114.15	114½	114

Vienna

ATX index: 1323.80 — Previous: 1303.26

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Boehler-Uddeh	845.90	820	845	820
Creditanst Pfd	620.10	615.10	620	635
EA-Generali	3300	3160	3260	3190
EVN	1638.50	1620	1635	1620
Flughafen Wien	515.50	508.50	508.50	511.50
OMV	1804.90	1750	1800	1750
Oest Elektriz	1013	1001	1010	1007
VA Stahl	530	517	526.50	520.80
VA Tech	2101	2025	2095	2025
Wienerberg Bau	2518	2475	2507	2490

Wellington

NZSE-40 index: 2410.08 — Previous: 2402.49

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zeald B	3.38	3.28	3.37	3.28
Brierly Invt	1.25	1.23	1.25	1.23
Carter Holt ord	2.68	2.60	2.65	2.69
Fletch Ch Bldg	4.61	4.58	4.58	4.60
Fletch Ch Eny	6.64	6.60	6.60	6.62
Fletch Ch Forst	1.59	1.55	1.55	1.58
Fletch Ch Paper	2.32	2.29	2.30	2.27
Lion Nathan	3.92	3.87	3.92	3.85
Telecom NZ	8.90	8.85	8.87	8.90
Wilson Horton	10.40	10.40	10.40	10.45

Zurich

SPI index: 3883.55 — Previous: 3880.67

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABB B	1948	1929	1941	1940
Adecco B	430	415	415.50	429
Alusuisse R	1365	1350	1352	1358
Ares-Serono B	2510	2450	2470	2430
Atel R	820	780	820	880
Baer Hdg B	2535	2505	2530	2530
Baloise Hdg R	2795	2700	2745	2720
BK Vision	1478	1451	1458	1455
Ciba Spec Chem	173.50	160	177	160.50
Clariant R	1179	1141	1170	1175
Crd Suisse Gp R	227.50	222	226	220.50
Elektrowatt B	550	548	550	550
Ems-Chemie	7050	6990	7000	7040
ESEC Hdg	3900	3775	3840	3785
Holderbank B	1300	1261	1265	1278
Liechtenst LB B	564	560	564	559
Nestle R	2129	2092	2105	2130
Novartis R	2362	2327	2336	2350
Oerlikon Boeh R	204.75	197.75	200	199.25
Pargesa Hld B	1820	1795	1800	1810
Pharm Visn B	860	855	858	862
Richemont A	1625	1570	1595	1590
Pirelli PC	311	310	310	311
Roche Hdg PC	13600	13205	13300	13535
SBC R	481.50	468	475.50	472.50
Schindler PC	1690	1665	1675	1690
SGS B	2699	2605	2695	2700
SMH B	850	840	847	847
Sulzer R	950	922	935	950
Swiss Reins R	2425	2351	2417	2355
SAir Group R	1997	1986	1988	2000
UBS B	2214	2150	2196	2145
Winterthur R	1600	1590	1600	1609
Zurich Assur R	649	636	639	639

The Trib Index

Prices as of 3:00 P.M. New York time

Jan. 1, 1992 = 100	Level	Change	% change	year to date % change
World Index	174.07	−0.02	−0.01	+16.71
Regional Indexes				
Asia/Pacific	101.12	+1.44	+1.44	−18.08
Europe	192.51	−0.08	−0.04	+19.42
N. America	219.24	−0.93	−0.42	+35.36
S. America	149.70	−2.13	−1.40	+30.82
Industrial Indexes				
Capital goods	216.83	−2.14	−0.98	+26.96
Consumer goods	207.23	+0.46	+0.22	+28.37
Energy	196.80	−0.59	−0.30	+15.28
Finance	125.46	+1.09	+0.88	+7.73
Miscellaneous	157.91	−2.01	−1.26	−2.38
Raw Materials	172.30	−0.65	−0.38	−1.76
Service	173.44	−0.67	−0.38	+26.30
Utilities	163.93	+0.06	+0.04	+14.27

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index © tracks the U.S. dollar value of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries. For more information, a free booklet is available by writing to The Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France. Compiled by Bloomberg News.

هكذا من الأصل

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Exhorting the Ranks At Hyundai Pep Fest

'Double Exports,' 1,000 Executives Shout

By Don Kirk
Special to the Herald Tribune

SEOUL — They sang the company song. They waved clenched fists. They shouted slogans.

Then the 1,000 owners, directors and top executives of Hyundai Group, the largest *chaebol*, or conglomerate, in South Korea listened to Chairman Chung Mong Gu fire them up for the "crisis" confronting the country's business and industry.

The main message from Mr. Chung and his lieutenants in the Hyundai Group: South Koreans must export their way out of the economic and financial morass that has forced them to turn to the International Monetary Fund for a bailout.

"Hyundai has to raise the flag high to contribute to the development of the Korean economy," Mr. Chung said Monday, raising his fist as he addressed senior executives in the company's headquarters. "Many big companies are bankrupt. The management crisis has become more serious."

Park Se Jong, president of the trading arm Hyundai Corp., opened the rally by reading a "letter of determination."

The central message: "We have to increase exports to tide us over our difficulties."

The rally epitomized the manner in which many South Korean groups and companies are trying to fire up their workers as they fight to pay off debts and survive in an increasingly tight economy.

Mr. Chung foresaw good emerging from the bad.

"If we make every effort to discard our loose thinking," he said, "then we can make this crisis a chance to gallop."

Mr. Chung linked the sloganeering and speech-making to another practical message. Hyundai, he said, is curting investment for research and development as well as facilities by 30 percent next year while slashing the two-month bonus paid to executives.

At the same time, Mr. Chung said that Hyundai would increase profit from business overseas next year to $17 billion from $12.1 billion in 1997. Total sales, he said, would reach about $90 billion in 1998, up 14 percent from the current year, thanks largely to sales abroad.

Hyundai's announcement of a cut in spending made it the third of the "Big Four" chaebol to announce reform measures since the International Monetary Fund put together a $60 billion bailout package for South Korea, provided that the government close down weak banks and companies and open fully to foreign investment.

In a rescue bid, South Korea's fourth-largest chaebol, Daewoo Group, agreed Monday to purchase 53.5 percent of Ssangyong Motor Co. — and take over about $1.6 billion of the automaker's $2.8 billion debt.

The purchase included most of Ssangyong Group's shares in the company, leaving the balance in the hands of a number of minority shareholders.

"Daewoo's takeover of Ssangyong Motor is the first friendly merger and acquisition after the IMF rescue package," said Kim Tae Jae, chairman of Daewoo Motor Co. "This will contribute to South Korea's restructuring."

Mr. Kim said Daewoo Motor planned to increase exports next year to $17 billion from $15 billion this year.

The president of Hyundai Motor, Park Byung Jae, led the slogan-shouting at the rally in the Hyundai headquarters.

"Double our efforts to overcome economic difficulties," he shouted, waving a fist as the executives and managers shouted back his slogans. "Double exports," he shouted. "Save costs," was another exhortation, all yelled over music supplied by a brass band beneath banners spelling out the slogans.

Hyundai's rally of its executives appeared as the most spirited effort of any of the chaebol to drum up group spirit in the face of adversity. Both Samsung Group and Daewoo Group, however, have also announced cost-cutting measures, including cuts in executive salaries.

Chun Yoon Kong/Agence France-Presse

THE WON STOPS HERE — A teller at the insolvent Coryo Securities & Investment Co. of South Korea trying to calm investors as they sought Tuesday to withdraw their deposits.

Rupiah Falls As Suharto Lays Low

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JAKARTA — The rupiah plunged to a record low against the dollar Tuesday, shaken by concerns about President Suharto's health and amid continued corporate demand for dollars to repay foreign debt.

The dollar hit 4,600 rupiah, up 450 rupiah from an opening of 4,150 rupiah, before finishing at 4,175 rupiah, up from 4,025 rupiah Monday.

Dealers said it was the largest single-day plunge ever for the currency. They said rumors about Mr. Suharto's health started in Singapore and spread to Tokyo, where the rupiah fell sharply.

State Secretary Murdiono and Mr. Suharto's son denied the rumors and said the president was in good health and resting at home.

But the absence of pictures of Mr. Suharto in the Indonesian press — a feature on most days — caused many investors to doubt the official version. On Friday, Mr. Murdiono said the president, 76, had canceled a trip to Iran and begun a 10-day rest on medical advice.

Mr. Suharto has ruled Indonesia, the world's fourth most-populous nation, for more than 30 years. But with no clear successor, investors are concerned about post-Suharto Indonesia.

"There's a convergence of factors," said Derrick Lee, analyst at MCM Pacific Co. in Singapore.

"The fall was sparked by the lack of official statements from the government" on Mr. Suharto's health, he added.

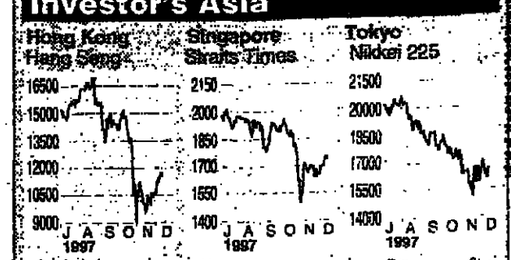
Mr. Suharto underwent a medical examination in Germany in mid-1996 and was given a clean bill of health. But financial markets have in the past reacted strongly to any hint that he might be unwell.

Mr. Suharto is widely expected to seek a seventh five-year term in office in elections next March.

The plunging rupiah signals more trouble for Indonesian companies, which have more than $65 billion in foreign debt, a large portion of it not protected against the currency's drop.

Expectations of lower interest rates have not helped the rupiah as they make the currency and rupiah-denominated securities less attractive to investors. The one-month interbank interest rate fell to 21.636 percent from 21.727 percent Monday; most other interest rates remain high but are expected to come down, traders said. *(Reuters, Bloomberg)*

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	11,490.86	11,722.94	-1.98
Singapore	Straits Times	1,734.22	1,753.63	-1.11
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,582.80	2,587.00	-0.16
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	16,685.51	16,131.57	+3.44
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	629.15	676.47	-7.00
Bangkok	SET	390.67	401.80	-2.77
Seoul	Composite Index	388.09	414.83	-6.47
Taipei	Stock Market Index	8,333.49	8,402.17	-0.82
Manila	PSE	1,979.50	1,957.21	+1.14
Jakarta	Composite Index	425.50	423.61	+0.45
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,410.08	2,402.49	+0.32
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,391.59	3,468.19	-2.21

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• **Hitachi Ltd.** and **SGS-Thomson Electronics** NV will develop a 64-bit microprocessor for use in digital still cameras and other consumer products. Separately, SGS-Thomson predicted a 17 percent annual increase in the world market for integrated circuits in consumer electronics, from $28 billion in 1996.

• **United Engineers Malaysia Bhd.** and its parent company, **Renong Bhd.**, have asked the **Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange** to continue its suspension of trading in their shares, which began Nov. 25 after United Engineers said it had paid 2.3 billion ringgit ($627.6 million) for a 32.6 percent stake in Renong.

• **The Kuala Lumpur** exchange will begin trading stocks a half hour earlier, at 9:00 A.M., starting Monday.

• **PT Multipolar Corp.**, the retail arm of Indonesia's **Lippo Group**, posted a 35.3 billion rupiah loss ($8.8 million) in the first nine months of the year, as interest expenses and foreign-exchange losses rose. It made a profit of 2.36 billion rupiah in the like period last year.

• **Datacraft Asia Ltd. of Singapore**, a telecommunications-network builder, is buying a Hong Kong-based rival, **UCS Communications Ltd.**, for $7.3 million in a bid to expand its operations in China.

• **Samsung Motors Inc.** plans to begin exporting cars to Southeast Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and the Pacific Rim in the second half of 1998.

• **Japanese** shipments of personal computers are expected to total 8.1 million units this year, up 0.1 percent from 1996, according to IDC Japan, a computer-industry research firm.

• **China's** gross domestic product is expected to grow 9 percent this year, while retail price inflation will be a modest 1 percent, the China Business Daily quoted Qiu Xiaohua, chief economist of the State Statistical Bureau, as saying.

• **PT Astra Agro Niaga's** shares rose 19 percent in their debut on the Jakarta stock market, to 1,850 rupiah (45 cents), as investors flocked to the palm-oil company.

• **Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.'s** chairman, Peter Sutch, said the slump in air passenger traffic would likely last for another 12 to 18 months. *Bloomberg, Reuters*

Japan Banks That Ventured Abroad Come Back Home

Bloomberg News

TOKYO — When Hokuriku Bank Ltd., a small lender based in the central Japanese city of Toyama, announced it was "coming back home" and shutting its branches in New York, London and Hong Kong, it was the latest in a wave of Japanese banks to withdraw from overseas.

And it was yet another sign that many Japanese lenders, saddled with trillions of yen worth of bad loans and pressed to reduce their assets, are shrinking from their role as major players in international finance.

"We were the princes of capital, and we believed we were almighty," said Kaneo Muromachi, senior managing director and head of the international division of Sanwa Bank Ltd., recalling the late 1980s, when Japanese banks expanded around the world.

Today, as the lenders increasingly compete with foreign banks at home and Japan deregulates its financial markets, withdrawal from overseas is increasingly an option.

The list of banks that have pulled back from the global arena this year includes some of the biggest names in Japanese finance: Hokkaido Takushoku Bank Ltd., one of 10 nationwide lenders, Nippon Credit Bank Ltd., one of three long-term credit banks, and Ashikaga Bank Ltd., one of the largest regional lenders.

Last week, Sumitomo Bank Ltd., Japan's second-largest bank, said it was considering selling Sumitomo Bank of California, the state's fifth-largest bank.

Other Japanese leaders are slimming down their businesses in the United States and Europe while expanding or maintaining their Asian branches.

In the six years to 1987, Japanese banks doubled their loan assets at overseas branches, to 40.6 trillion yen ($313.03 billion) from 19.4 trillion yen. By 1986, they had become the world's biggest lenders, according to the Bank for International Settlements.

Then, in 1990, the Japanese asset bubble burst. During the last seven years the benchmark Nikkei 225-stock index has lost almost 60 percent of its value, while property prices have plunged 70 percent in urban centers.

That has left banks, which count profits they see on stock holdings as capital, with big dents in their capital-to-assets ratio. It also left them with an estimated 28 trillion yen worth of bad loans as of the end of March.

The deputy director of the Finance Ministry's banking bureau, Sei Nakai, said the ministry, which regulates the industry, would step in before any bank defaulted on foreign clients.

Even the top 19 nationwide banks, which had a total of 364 overseas branches or offices at the end of March, will not all be able maintain their positions abroad, analysts say.

KODAK: *Testing the Boundaries of Law to Protect Trade Secrets*

Continued from Page 13

base of news articles in 1970, Mr. Halligan said. In 1996, there were 220 reported cases and 4,303 citations of trade secrets, he said.

The new economic espionage law was not around when Kodak began pursuing Mr. Worden and his clients. So Kodak is using the federal anti-racketeering statute to go after 3M and Imation, the same approach General Motors Corp. used when it accused former employees, including its one-time purchasing chief, Jose Ignacio Lopez de Arriortua, of pilfering trade secrets when they left GM for Volkswagen AG in 1992.

Mr. Lopez, who has denied guilt, resigned from Volkswagen last year, and Volkswagen agreed to pay GM $100 million, buy $1 billion in GM parts over seven years and express public "regret" over the incident. For such companies as Kodak, GM, Coca-Cola Co. and Intel Corp., deeming some of their processes and formulas as "trade secrets" is a better way to guard against theft than the routine method of filing for a government patent. Patents, corporate lawyers have long complained, take too long to file, offer too little protection and alert competitors to too many secrets.

"Kodak happens to be a company that relies to a pretty fair degree on trade secrets," said Kodak's chief counsel, Gary Van Graafeiland. Otherwise "you create a road map for your competition by the patent applications that you file."

Mr. Worden sold off much more than a road map, Kodak charged. His last five years at Kodak were spent overseeing the development of its secret 401 machine, which was supposed to help the company beat lower-priced rivals with higher-quality film. Mr. Worden even took part in an internal debate over whether to file for patents or keep the technology as a trade secret.

But despite Kodak's best security efforts, it says Mr. Worden sold 3M and Imation most of the essential details of Kodak's latest film-manufacturing technology.

FBI agents, after raiding his home in South Carolina, found boxes of Kodak documents marked "confidential," blueprints and fax records that Kodak says show Mr. Worden was selling the information to clients, including 3M. And Mr. Worden's successor at Kodak, Kurt Strobl, was fired after Kodak alleged he had been providing Mr. Worden with much of the material.

Kodak's suit alleges that 3M and its subsidiaries provided Mr. Worden with detailed "wish lists" targeting particular confidential Kodak technologies and paid Mr. Worden to provide the information, although it does not spell out how much he allegedly got. To this day, Kodak claims, Imation continues to use Kodak's trade secrets "on a daily basis in their acetate film manufacturing processes and elsewhere."

After more than a decade of corporate streamlining, Mr. Van Graafeiland said an increasingly mobile work force requires companies to be more vigilant about setting policies that spell out what employees can do when they leave.

"This is going to be an increasingly serious issue for companies as we move into the next century," he said. "As a result of downsizing and a general increase in work force mobility, people are not viewing their jobs as permanent. More people are moving around and taking their knowledge and expertise with them."

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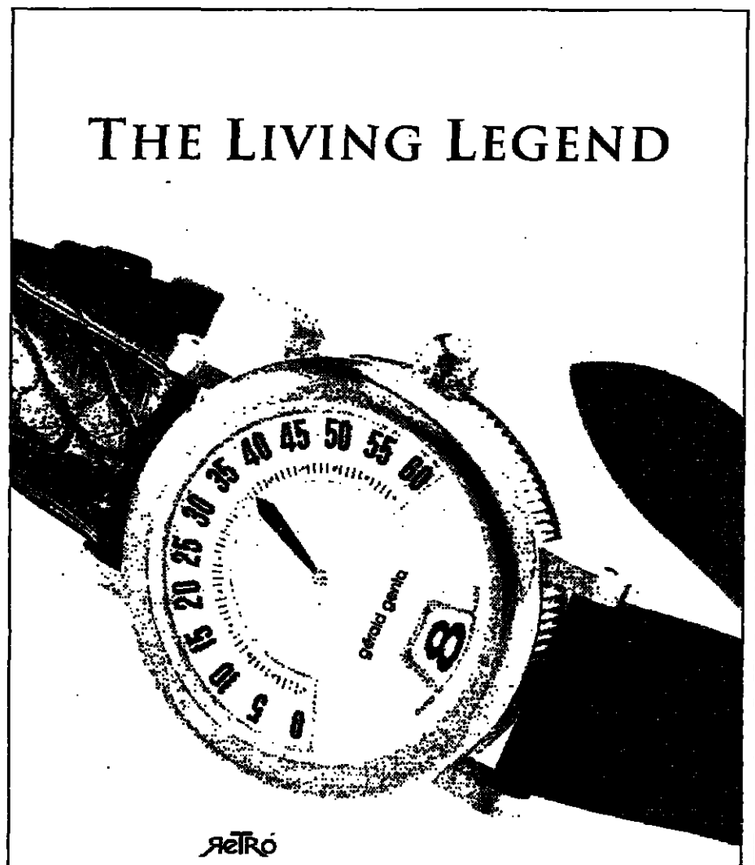

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WORLD ROUNDUP

AP

Nick Faldo chipping in Cimanggis, southeast of Jakarta.

Faldo and Parnevik Take Lead on 67s

GOLF Nick Faldo of England and Jesper Parnevik of Sweden shot 5-under-par 67s to share the first-round lead in Indonesia on Tuesday in the Johnnie Walker Super Tour. The eight golfers in the $350,000 tournament fly to Bangkok to play the second round Thursday.

The defending champion, Ernie Els of South Africa, was two strokes behind at 69. After the Bangkok stop, the four-round tournament moves to the Philippines on Saturday and Taiwan on Sunday. *(AP)*

• Scott Verplank closed with a 71 — his sixth straight sub-par round — and won his PGA Tour card and its qualifying tournament by six shots over Blaine McCallister. Verplank finished 22-under-par at 407 in the $500,000 event played in Haines City, Florida. *(AP)*

• Scott Henderson of Scotland, who left a career as an engineer in the oil industry to try professional golf, has been named the European Tour Rookie of the Year. Henderson, 28, finished 42d on the Order of Merit this year after three top 10 finishes in 21 events. *(Reuters)*

Cambridge Wins Again

RUGBY A New Zealander, Paul Sutridge, scored 14 points Tuesday as Cambridge defeated Oxford, 29-17, for its fourth consecutive victory over Oxford in their annual rugby showdown at Twickenham, England. Cambridge, playing before 70,000, built up a 19-3 lead early in the second half, although Oxford hit back with a couple of late tries, closing to within 19-10 and then 26-17. *(AP)*

The Rich Get Richer

SOCCER The Brazilian striker Savio joined an already sparkling attack at the Spanish powerhouse Real Madrid on Tuesday, signing a five-year contract for $13.5 million. The 23-year-old former Flamengo player is not expected to make his debut until January. *(AP)*

Willie Pastrano Dies

BOXING Willie Pastrano, a light heavyweight champion in the 1960s who taught Muhammad Ali to dance in the ring, died Saturday of cancer. He was 62. Nicknamed "Willie the Wisp," Pastrano had a record of 63-13-8, with 14 knockouts. Pastrano had fought 77 times before winning the light heavyweight title from Harold Johnson in 1963. He lost the crown when he was stopped by Jose Torres in 1965. *(AP)*

Pakistanis Whitewash West Indies

Reuters

KARACHI, Pakistan — Pakistan became the first team in 69 years to whitewash the West Indies, winning the third and final cricket test Tuesday by 10 wickets with more than a day to spare.

"We were completely outplayed in the series," the West Indies captain Courtney Walsh said. "The Pakistanis were far ahead of us in every department of the game."

CRICKET

The Pakistani captain, Wasim Akram, said his team "performed and clicked at the right time. West Indies didn't play badly, but we played a lot better than them."

The Pakistani bowler Saqlain Mushtaq was named man of the match for his nine for 80.

The West Indies, resuming Tuesday morning at 198 for seven, were bowled out for 212 in 29 minutes as Akram claimed the last three wickets to finish on four for 42. Pakistan achieved the required 12 runs for victory in five overs.

The defeat followed ignominious reverses, both by an innings, in the first two tests. The West Indies last suffered a clean sweep in 1928 when they were blanked out in their inaugural series by Percy Chapman's England team. R. K. Nunes's West Indies lost all three tests.

Earlier this year in a bad-tempered contest seen widely as the unofficial world championship of test cricket, the West Indies was beaten by Australia by an innings and 183 runs in Adelaide.

The West Indies are to play again Thursday in the four-nation Sharjah Cup, also featuring England, Pakistan and India.

■ South Africa Crushes Aussies

Lance Klusener and Pat Symcox of South Africa combined to destroy Australia's batting lineup and forge a 45-run victory in a limited overs match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Tuesday, The Associated Press reported.

Australia was all out for 125 in the 40th over in reply to South Africa's 170 for eight off 50 overs.

South Africa moved to the top of the tri-series table with two wins from three games. Australia has won one from three while New Zealand has won one and lost one.

■ Ex-Judge Clears Indian Team

Manoj Prabhakar, an Indian cricketer, was motivated by anger at being dropped from the national team when he accused his teammates of being involved in betting and match fixing, according to former Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachuda, who was appointed by the Indian cricket board to investigate the charges. He declared them unfounded, The Associated Press reported from New Delhi.

Zahid Hussein/Reuters

Pakistanis high-fiving after dismissing another West Indian batsman.

Stockton Is Back as Jazz Beat the Pacers, 106-97

The Associated Press

John Stockton got a hero's welcome when he returned to the court in Salt Lake City after missing the first 18 games of the season following knee surgery.

Then he showed his gratitude to the Delta Center crowd by helping the Utah Jazz beat the Indiana Pacers on Monday night, 106-97.

"It was a great atmosphere out there," said Stockton, who finished with 10 points and seven assists. "It's even better because we won."

NBA ROUNDUP

Although he played only 20 minutes, the NBA's career assists and steals leader played a key role in ending the Pacers' six-game winning streak.

Stockton, who received ovations before, during and after the game, scored eight points in the first 5:37, showed his scrappiness in a couple of third-quarter confrontations and provided the Jazz with crucial floor leadership down the stretch.

"He got them going right off the bat," said the Indiana coach, Larry Bird. "He made an immediate impact."

It was a physical game that featured the ejection of the Pacers star Reggie Miller for bumping the referee Jim Kinsey while protesting a call in the third quarter.

"This kind of game makes you forget about everything else," said Stockton, who wore a light brace on his left knee. "It was a brutal game in some ways, and I had to concentrate on that."

Heat 106, Nets 97 At Miami, Tim Hardaway scored 23 points and the Heat took advantage of a fast start to beat New Jersey.

Hardaway sank a pair of 3-pointers to help Miami build a 20-3 lead. The Nets scored just one basket in the opening seven and a half minutes and missed 10 of their first 11 shots.

The Nets closed to 95-89 with 1:31 left, but Eric Murdock hit eight straight free throws to clinch the Heat's third consecutive victory.

New Jersey's Keith Van Horn, the second pick in this year's draft, scored 16 points in his second NBA game. Van Horn, who missed the first 17 games with a sprained right ankle, was 7-for-14 from the field.

"If we had played well in the first quarter, we could have won," Van Horn said. "We didn't have the energy to sustain the comeback."

Magic 95, 76ers 86 At Orlando, Rony Seikaly scored 24 points as the Magic won without the star Penny Hardaway.

Hardaway, who missed his third straight game because of pain in his left knee, was placed on the injured list before the game.

Orlando also lost Nick Anderson, who broke a bone in his right hand in the first half and is expected to miss at least four weeks.

But the Magic still had enough to beat the Sixers, who got 21 points from Allen Iverson and 18 from Jimmy Jackson.

Trail Blazers 105, Lakers 99 At Portland, Isaiah Rider scored 21 of his 26 points in the second half as the Trail Blazers handed Los Angeles its second straight loss.

The Lakers, who lost at home to Cleveland on Sunday night, are 15-4 overall but only 5-4 since Shaquille O'Neal went down with an injury.

"We're not coming out with the same enthusiasm or energy that we had in the winning streak," said the Laker coach Del Harris.

Los Angeles cut Portland's lead to 101-99 on Kobe Bryant's two free throws with 12.4 seconds left. But Rick Bronson, signed out of the CBA last week, sank four consecutive free throws to clinch the victory.

Rasheed Wallace of Portland had 18 points, nine rebounds and five assists, all tying his season highs. Nick Van Exel had 24 points and 12 assists for the Lakers, who lost to a Western Conference team for the first time in 13 games this season.

Steve C. Wilson/The Associated Press

John Stockton of Utah, with a leg brace, scoring 2 of his 10 points.

A Showdown in Turin

Man. U. Stands in the Way of Juventus

By Rob Hughes
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Not for nothing do they call Ole Gunnar Solskjaer "The Baby Faced Assassin."

In looks, he is a boyish 24-year-old. In company, he appears an inoffensive Norwegian. In action, he's more a poacher than a sniper, though to those who feel his sting it probably amounts to the same. Yet on television, Solksjaer, Manchester United's goal scorer, boldly pronounces: "We are going to Turin to win. We don't just want to put in a good performance against Juventus, we want to eliminate them from the competition."

What a difference a year makes in Champions League confrontations.

WORLD SOCCER

Twelve months ago, United went timidly to Stadio Delle Alpi, losing there and at home against Juventus because they never imagined they could be the Italian club's equal. Now the boot is on the other foot. It is United that feels itself superior, Juventus that would be grateful with any kind of a victory.

Anything less than victory for Juventus and it is all over for this season. Manchester United, with an imperious five straight wins, is assured of topping the group, certain to be in the next round. Juve, the European champion of 1996, and finalist of 1997, has to beat Manchester on Wednesday to reach 12 points — and then to pray that no more than one runner up in other groups reaps more points. It is a reminder that yesterday's pupils can swiftly become today's masters.

What Solskjaer has in mind is a kind of backhanded compliment to Juventus. United still has respect for the Italian champion, still suspects that with its experience and its quality, there could be a dangerous liberation if it is spared the cut on Wednesday. I think Juventus will get the points, will have that edge of competitive desperation to puncture, slightly, the young Manchester team's euphoria.

If not, Juve has only itself to blame. In defense, midfield and attack it has had self-wounding bouts of indiscipline, losing Paolo Montero, Didier Deschamps and now Alessandro Del Piero to suspensions. Additionally, its management tried to repeat a profiteer's trick two years running. It had sold Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli, the strikers of 1996, and almost got away with it. But then Juve accepted bids for their replacements, Alen Boksic and Christian Vieri.

To sell once was possibly prudent, to sell again looks like carelessness. Compounding that, Juventus is without Del Piero, the goal thief of many a European night, and without reserve strikers Michele Padovano (sold) and Nicola Amoruso (broken leg). It is down to the bare bones of two attackers who have been goal shy of late: Filippo Inzaghi and Daniel Fonseca.

Inzaghi is quick but lightweight, and very foolish with loose words if he really did tell Italy's press this week that Manchester United just got lucky when it beat Juventus, 3-2, in England in October. The truth is, United is in the groove, scoring handsomely week in, week out, and growing ever more authoritative with results such as Saturday's 3-1 victory in Liverpool.

Indeed, goals have flowed with such regularity for United that Solskjaer, last season's leading scorer, may have to rise from the bench to play any part in eliminating, if that happens, Juventus. For the greatest change in Manchester's rampant red season has been the chemistry between Teddy Sheringham and Andy Cole. Sheringham is the replacement brought in when Eric Cantona brusquely retired; Cole is a born again predator whose 14 goals in 10 games brooks no argument.

In summary, Juventus has regressed as a European force, and that may have happened even without the sales, because sustaining Continental and domestic success when every opponent measures its season against the champion becomes harder each passing year.

The challenge is to remotivate enriched players, to trade new for old, to find ways to surprise adversaries who study everything that makes you numero uno. Manchester is one of those hungry adversaries, reaching up for parity.

Elsewhere, we could get three German sides in the quarterfinals of the Champions League. A nonsense, I know, for it ridicules the word champion. That, however, is not the responsibility of Borussia Dortmund, resurgent now and already the winner of Group A. Nor can anyone blame Bayern Munich, which has group E virtually sewn up, and Bayer Leverkusen which has a double chance of qualifying from group F.

Leverkusen is at home to Monaco on Wednesday. Although Monaco, with its new opportunist youngster David Trezeguet complimenting Thierry Henry and Victor Ikpeba, trounced Leverkusen, 4-0, in the first meeting, it will be a much closer story in Germany. Both teams have 12 points; a tied game would put both into the next round.

From Group D, either Real Madrid, built on opulence, or Rosenborg, built on good coaching of local talents, can finish top. Both can win Wednesday's games, against Porto and Olympiakos respectively, and reach the 13-point margin that guarantees progression in the tournament. And in Group C, playing with marvelous confidence, Dynamo Kiev has outclassed its opposition.

So from all sides, the Old Lady of Torino can feel the hot breath on her neck. Juventus is not a bad team — as its second place in Italy's Serie A demonstrates. But it is pressured and, for the first time in three seasons, it competes in Europe with destiny not entirely in its own hands. The competitors' wheel turns.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times of London.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	13	5	.722	—
Orlando	14	7	.667	½
New Jersey	11	8	.579	2½
New York	11	8	.579	2½
Washington	8	11	.421	5½
Boston	7	11	.389	6
Philadelphia	5	12	.294	7½

CENTRAL DIVISION

Atlanta	15	3	.833	—
Cleveland	12	6	.667	3
Chicago	11	7	.611	4
Indiana	11	7	.611	4
Charlotte	10	7	.588	4½
Milwaukee	11	8	.579	4½
Detroit	8	12	.400	8
Toronto	1	18	.053	14½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

MIDWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	11	5	.688	—
Utah	12	7	.632	½
San Antonio	10	9	.526	2½
Minnesota	8	10	.444	4
Vancouver	7	13	.350	6
Dallas	6	13	.278	7
Denver	2	15	.118	9½

PACIFIC DIVISION

L.A. Lakers	15	4	.789	—
Seattle	15	5	.750	½
Phoenix	11	5	.688	2½
Portland	12	6	.667	2½
Sacramento	6	14	.300	9½
L.A. Clippers	3	16	.158	12
Golden State	2	15	.118	12

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Philadelphia	19	21	22	32— 94
Orlando	24	25	16	26— 95

P: Iverson 10-25 1-4 21, Jackson 7-11 2-2 18; O: Seikaly 9-16 6-6 24, Grant 5-12 2-2 12. Rebounds—Philadelphia 55 (Jackson 8), Orlando 47 (Seikaly 15). Assists—Philadelphia 12 (Iverson 4), Orlando 20 (Price, Armstrong 5).

New Jersey	17	37	18	31— 97
Miami	31	22	23	29—105

N.J.: Cassell 6-16 6-8 19, Gill 6-15 4-4 17; M: Hardaway 10-23 0-0 23, Austin 6-14 5-6 17, Lenard 6-8 1-2 17. Rebounds—New Jersey 48 (Williams 11), Miami 55 (Austin 13). Assists—New Jersey 18 (Cassell 6), Miami 23 (Hardaway 9).

Indiana	26	30	24	17— 97
Utah	28	29	27	22—106

I: A.Davis 6-12 7-8 19, Miller 7-11 1-2 16; U: Malone 13-19 5-8 31, Hornacek 4-14 5-5 13. Rebounds—Indiana 37 (D.Davis 8), Utah 58 (Ostertag 9). Assists—Indiana 18 (Jackson 9), Utah 25 (Stockton 7).

L.A. Lakers	17	27	27	28— 99
Portland	28	31	27	27—105

L.A.: Van Exel 9-18 1-1 24, Bryant 6-14 6-8 19; P: Rider 10-19 2-3 26, Wallace 7-14 4-5 18. Rebounds—Los Angeles 52 (Campbell 12), Portland 58 (Wallace, Grant 9). Assists—Los Angeles 20 (Van Exel 12), Portland 23 (Wallace, Rider 5).

The AP Top 25

Top 25 teams in Associated Press' men's basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 7, total points based on 25 points for first-place vote through one point for 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Duke (49)	8-0	1,728	1
2. N. Carolina (19)	9-0	1,694	3
3. Kansas (1)	8-1	1,520	2
4. Kentucky	6-1	1,459	7
5. South Carolina	5-0	1,449	5
6. Arizona	5-2	1,424	4
7. Xavier (1)	5-0	1,269	9
8. Purdue	6-2	1,166	6
9. Utah	7-0	1,137	11
10. Iowa	6-0	1,119	10
11. Stanford	5-0	1,052	12
12. UCLA	3-1	949	15
13. Connecticut	7-1	904	13
14. New Mexico	5-1	820	8
15. Arkansas	6-0	712	18
16. Florida St.	6-1	575	19
17. Clemson	5-2	553	17
18. Fresno St.	3-1	548	16
19. Maryland	4-2	480	22
20. Temple	4-1	467	20
21. Mississippi	4-1	384	14
22. Princeton	6-0	271	25
23. Georgia	5-2	171	21
24. Georgia Tech	5-1	140	23
25. Wake Forest	6-1	127	24

Others receiving votes: Rhode Island 82, Syracuse 79, Texas Christian 71, Howell 61, Miami 60, Marquette 46, Michigan 32, Saint Louis 29, Tennessee 21, West Virginia 19, Oklahoma St. 17, Minnesota 16, Louisville 15, Mississippi St. 14, Oklahoma 11, Colorado St. 9, Texas 9, Arizona St. 6, UNLV 6, N. Carolina St. 5, Massachusetts 3, Cincinnati 2, Gonzaga 2, Murray St. 2, Washington 2, Ball St. 1, Indiana 1, South Alabama 1.

FOOTBALL

NFL Standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
New England	9	5	0	.643	334	253
Miami	9	5	0	.643	327	272
N.Y. Jets	8	6	0	.571	307	274
Buffalo	6	8	0	.429	220	316
Indianapolis	2	12	0	.143	244	362

CENTRAL

y-Pittsburgh	10	4	0	.714	342	270
Jacksonville	9	5	0	.643	354	295
Tennessee	7	7	0	.500	298	283
Baltimore	5	8	1	.393	291	310
Cincinnati	5	9	0	.357	308	367

WEST

y-Kansas City	11	3	0	.786	321	212
y-Denver	11	3	0	.786	417	250
Seattle	6	8	0	.429	305	332
Oakland	4	10	0	.286	294	377
San Diego	4	10	0	.286	256	358

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	8	5	1	.607	257	248
Washington	7	6	1	.536	282	227
Philadelphia	6	7	1	.464	268	317
Dallas	6	8	0	.429	273	263
Arizona	3	11	0	.214	244	326

CENTRAL

x-Green Bay	11	3	0	.786	360	251
Tampa Bay	9	5	0	.643	268	217
Minnesota	8	6	0	.571	302	317
Detroit	7	7	0	.500	352	283
Chicago	3	11	0	.214	235	380

WEST

x-San Francisco	12	2	0	.857	332	210
Carolina	7	7	0	.500	237	253
Atlanta	6	8	0	.429	274	315
New Orleans	5	9	0	.357	197	292
St. Louis	4	10	0	.286	259	328

x-won division title
y-clinched playoff berth

MONDAY'S RESULT

Carolina 23, Dallas 13

ICE HOCKEY

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	19	9	0	38	82	51
Philadelphia	15	9	6	36	84	70
Washington	15	11	4	34	90	80
N.Y. Rangers	9	12	11	29	83	87
N.Y. Islanders	12	13	4	28	79	79
Florida	9	15	5	23	70	87
Tampa Bay	5	19	4	14	54	95

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Montreal	17	10	4	38	94	72
Pittsburgh	16	10	5	37	88	77
Boston	13	12	5	31	74	79
Ottawa	13	13	4	30	78	72
Carolina	12	14	5	29	82	86
Buffalo	9	13	6	24	72	77

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

Dallas	20	8	4	44	103	70
St. Louis	19	9	3	41	94	69
Detroit	18	7	5	41	98	69
Phoenix	13	14	3	29	80	84
Chicago	10	14	5	25	63	74
Toronto	10	14	4	24	63	76

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	16	7	8	40	94	79
Los Angeles	12	12	5	29	89	82
Anaheim	11	14	6	28	70	88
Edmonton	9	15	7	25	73	94
San Jose	10	18	2	22	76	93
Vancouver	9	17	4	22	84	104
Calgary	6	18	7	19	77	99

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Colorado	1	0	1—2
Montreal	0	2	2—4

1st Period: C-Sakic 16 (Deadmarsh) 2d Period: M-Bureau 4 (Popovic, Stevenson) 3, M-Quinnel 3 (Manson) 3d Period: M-Brunet 4 (Bureau) (sh). S, M-Recchi 14 (Koivu, Brisebois) 6, C-Klemm 4 (Lacroix, Sakic) Shots on goal: C- 14-6-5—25. M- 6-8-14—28. Goalies: C-Roy. M-Hnasy.

Phoenix	0	0	1—1
N.Y. Rangers	1	0	2—3

1st Period: N.Y.-Graves 7 (Leetch, Gretzky) (pp). 2d Period: None. 3d Period: N.Y.-Karpovtsev 1 (Skrudland, Keane) 2, P-Lemieux 1 (Running, Germer) 4, N.Y.-Verobiev 1 (LaFontaine, Karpovtsev) Shots on goal: P- 10-10-8—28. N.Y.- 10-7-12—29. Goalies: P- Khabibulin. N.Y.- Richter.

Dallas	0	0	0—0
Toronto	1	0	2—3

1st Period: T-Korolev 10 (Sundin, Johnson) 2d Period: None. 3d Period: T-Sundin 10 (Zeltler) 3, T-, Sundin 11 (Johnson, Smith) Shots on goal: D- 8-7-4—19. T- 8-9-11—28. Goalies: D-Belfour. T-Potvin.

Vancouver	1	0	0—1
St. Louis	1	2	1—4

1st Period: S.L.-Rhoaume 2 (Yake, Kenedy) 2. V-Ancelo 1 (Noonan, Muzyn) 2d Period: S.L.-Campbell 7 (Turgeon, Ducheane) (pp). 4, S.L.-Pellerin 5 (Conroy, Atcheynum) 5, St. Louis, Pellerin 6 (Conroy) 3d Period: S.L.-Courtnall 13 (Turgeon) Shots on goal: V- 7-9-2—18. S.L.- 7-5-8—20. Goalies: V-McLean. S.L.-Fuhr.

CRICKET

PAKISTAN VS. WEST INDIES
THIRD TEST, FOURTH DAY
TUESDAY IN KARACHI, PAKISTAN

West Indies: 216 and 212
Pakistan: 417 and 15

Pakistan won match by 10 wickets and 3 tests series 3-0.

AUSTRALIAN TRI-SERIES
AUSTRALIA VS. SOUTH AFRICA
TUESDAY IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

South Africa: 170-9
Australia: 125
South Africa won by 45 runs.
STANDINGS: South Africa 4 points; New Zealand 2; Australia 2.

SOCCER

UEFA Cup

Spartak Moscow 1, Karlsruhe SC 0, OT
Spartak win 1-0 on aggregate.

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Sheffield Wednesday 2, Barnsley 1
STANDINGS: Mon. U 37 points; Chelsea 34; Blackburn 33; Arsenal, Leeds 30; Leicester 27; Derby 26; Liverpool 25; Newcastle 24; West Ham, Wimbledon 23; A. Villa, Sheff. Wed. 21; C. Palace 20; Bolton 19; Coventry 17; Southampton, Tottenham 16; Everton, Barnsley 13.

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE

CHICAGO—Claimed 2B Sergio Nunez off waivers from Kansas City.

CLEVELAND—Agreed to terms with OF Kenny Lofton on 3-year contract and RHP Dwight Gooden on 2-year contract. Traded OF Marquis Grissom and RHP Jeff Juden to Milwaukee for RHP Ben McDonald, RHP Mike Fetters and LHP Ron Villone.

OAKLAND—Traded RHP Steve Karsay to Cleveland Indians for RHP Mike Fetters.

TAMPA BAY—Agreed to terms with 1B Paul Sorrento on 1-year contract.

TEXAS—Agreed to terms with SS Kevin Elster on 1-year contract.

TORONTO—Agreed to terms with C Mike Stanley on 2-year contract and 2B Tony Fernandez on 1-year contract.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

LOS ANGELES—Agreed to terms with INF Jose Vizcaino on 3-year contract.

BASKETBALL
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

ORLANDO—Put G Penny Hardaway on injured list.

UTAH—Activated G John Stockton from injured list. Put G Troy Hudson on injured list.

FOOTBALL
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

CINCINNATI—Put LB Tim Terry on injured reserve. Signed S Cory Gilliard off New Orleans practice squad.

JACKSONVILLE—Put C Michael Cheever on injured reserve.

HOCKEY
NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

DETROIT—Recalled D Yan Golubovsky from Adirondack, AHL. Reassigned D Jon Coleman to Adirondack.

NEW JERSEY—Assigned F Reid Simpson to Albany, AHL.

ST. LOUIS—Recalled F Chris Kenady from Worcester, AHL.

SAN JOSE—Recalled D Andrei Zyuzin from Kentucky of AHL.

COLLEGE

NORTH CAROLINA—Named Carl Torbush football coach.

SOUTH ALABAMA—Announced F Rico Alderson is academically eligible to play basketball. Announced G Travon Broadway has left basketball team.

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هكذا من الأصل

SPORTS

Mark Duncan/The Associated Press

Dwight Gooden after signing with the Cleveland Indians for two years.

Déjà Vu in Center Field: Lofton Rejoins Indians

By Murray Chass
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Before the 1997 season, they were traded for each other. Now, after the season, one was traded because the other came back.

The Cleveland Indians, who swapped third basemen a week ago when they sent Matt Williams to Arizona for Travis Fryman, changed center fielders Monday, signing Kenny Lofton as a free agent and sending Marquis Grissom to the Milwaukee Brewers in a five-player trade.

Ben McDonald, one of the three pitchers the Indians received from the Brewers, will join their starting rotation with another newcomer.

The Indians, as expected, signed Dwight Gooden, whom the Yankees let leave as a free agent. The Indians gave Gooden a two-year contract for $5.68 million. They brought Lofton back with

BASEBALL

a three-year, $24 million contract. That is less than the five-year, $43.5 million deal he rejected last spring, an act that prompted the Indians to trade him to Atlanta for Grissom in a four-player deal.

John Hart, the Indians' indefatigable general manager, also made another trade. Mike Fetters, a relief pitcher in the Brewers' deal, went on to Oakland for a starting pitcher, Steve Karsay. In the Lofton trade, Jeff Juden, a starting pitcher, went to Milwaukee and Ron Villone, a reliever, moved to Cleveland.

In other developments, two free-agent shortstops signed with new teams — Jose Vizcaino with Los Angeles for three years and $9.5 million, and Kevin Elster with Texas for one year and $1.65 million. And the Toronto Blue Jays signed two free agents.

The Blue Jays, seeking a productive designated hitter, gave Mike Stanley, who finished last season with the Yankees, $6.15 million for two years, and gave the second baseman Tony Fernandez $2.5 million for one year.

The Tampa Bay Devil Rays announced that they had a two-year, $5.25 million deal with Seattle's Paul Sorrento, who will be their designated hitter. The expansion team announced Tuesday that it had signed Wade Boggs to play third base.

The Indians traded Lofton in March not only because they did not want to lose him as a free agent without getting anything in return, but also because they were cleaning out their clubhouse of problem players.

They acquired Grissom and David Justice, who were instrumental in making their World Series adventure possible, then signed Grissom to a new five-year contract for $5 million a year. But Grissom was not the leadoff hitter Lofton had been, and the Indians decided to pursue Lofton, whom they felt might be a different person without Albert Belle and Eddie Murray in the clubhouse.

The Indians' only competition for the 30-year-old Lofton was the Brewers, who offered about $42 million for five years but loaded it with deferred money. Lofton preferred his salary each season.

■ **Red Sox Grab Eckersley**

The Boston Red Sox have signed the relief pitcher Dennis Eckersley to a one-year contract, The Associated Press reported. Eckersley, 43, was a starter for the Red Sox from 1978-84 until he was traded him to the Cubs for Bill Buckner. He reportedly signed for less than the $1.75 million in base pay he got last season with the St. Louis Cardinals.

The End of the Trail?

Cowboys Fall to the Panthers, 23-13

By Joe Drape
New York Times Service

IRVING, Texas — The Dallas Cowboys will not win the National Football Conference East. They probably will not even make the playoffs.

Their resounding 23-13 loss Monday night to the Carolina Panthers highlighted all that is wrong with the Cowboys. Emmitt Smith spent all but the

NFL

first series on the bench with a shoulder injury. Troy Aikman spent much of his evening on his back. And 10 yellow flags flew in Dallas's face.

"We're used to winning Super Bowls," said Jerry Jones said, the Dallas owner. "We certainly didn't have that commitment tonight."

With 8 minutes 1 second left and the Cowboys (6-8) trailing by 20-6, the Texas Stadium crowd of 63,251 was heading for the exits. It was then that the Dallas offense moved 78 yards in three plays to cut the deficit to 20-13. Michael Irvin completed the drive by hauling in a 52-yard pass from Troy Aikman (14 for 26, 180 yards, 1 touchdown).

The Dallas defense stopped Carolina (7-7), and when Ken Walter shanked a 27-yard punt, the Cowboys had the ball on their own 46 with 5:21 left. In a play that epitomized the Cowboys' frustrating season — fourth and less than a yard — the Cowboys elected to pass. Aikman rolled right, but could not find anyone open. He doubled back to his left, looking for a receiver. Finally, like the Cowboys for much of the year, he just fell down. Loss of 25. Panthers' ball.

And with 56 seconds left in what for all practical purposes was their season, John Kasay delivered an 18-yard coup de grace. Carolina, 23-13.

The Panthers opened the third quarter with a crushing 12-play, 69-yard drive. Todd Collins (16 of 28 passing, 136 yards, 2 touchdowns) went 7 for 7 on the drive, finding five different receivers, and throwing a 1-yard touchdown pass to fullback Scott Greene for a 17-6 lead.

It was the Panthers' ability to hold the ball for 11 minutes in the third quarter that will keep Dallas home for the playoffs for the first time in seven seasons.

Ron Heflin/The Associated Press

Les Miller of Carolina nailing the Dallas quarterback, Troy Aikman.

James A. Finley/The Associated Press

Mike Keenan waving to St. Louis Blues fans before his Canucks lost.

Keenan and Canucks Lose to Blues

The Associated Press

Mike Keenan got what he expected on his return to St. Louis: a rude reception. On his first trip to town since being fired by the Blues a year ago, Keenan grinned and waved to a near-sellout crowd packed with boobirds before his new team, the Vancouver Canucks, lost by 5-1 Monday night.

For the Blues, Scott Pellerin scored twice off setups from Craig Conroy as the Blues won their fourth in a row.

The crowd of 19,295 enjoyed every minute, booing Keenan's picture every time it appeared on the scoreboard and cheering wildly when the camera focused on the Blues' coach, Joel Quenneville.

In Keenan's last game in the Kiel Center a year ago, the Blues lost, 8-0, to Vancouver. But there was a silver lining to this visit, as Keenan and Blues' star Brett Hull, who sat out the game with a pulled hamstring, finally buried the hatchet. They shook hands and chatted, and Keenan even autographed one of his model hockey sticks for Hull's collection

Rangers 3, Coyotes 1 Winning at home has been difficult for the New York Rangers this season. Scoring the first goal has been nearly impossible. But the Rangers managed to do both in beating the visiting Phoenix Coyotes.

NHL ROUNDUP

Adam Graves scored on a blast from the slot at 3:31 of the first period, with New York on the power play. Alexander Karpovtsev made it 2-0 at 9:20 of the third from the high slot. Jocelyn Lemieux scored from outside the crease at 12:56 of the third to cut New York's lead to one goal, but New York responded with a goal by Vladimir Vorobiev at 14:31.

Maple Leafs 3, Stars 0 In Toronto, Mats Sundin scored twice and Felix Potvin stopped 19 shots as the Maple Leafs snapped a seven-game winning streak by Dallas.

Sundin scored his 10th and 11th goals and Potvin recorded his first shutout this season as the Maple Leafs, the Central Division's last-place team, blanked the NHL's top-scoring squad.

Canadiens 4, Avalanche 2 In Montreal, Andy Moog stopped 23 shots and won for the first time since Nov. 8 as Montreal ended Colorado's six-game unbeaten streak.

Benoit Brunet, Marc Bureau, Stephane Quintal and Mark Recchi scored for the Canadiens. Joe Sakic and Jon Klemm scored for Colorado, which had its six-game unbeaten streak ended. Patrick Roy, traded from the Canadiens to the Avalanche in 1995, made 24 saves but got little help from his teammates.

Playing the Race Card to Cover Up for a Player's Bad Behavior

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The basketball player was deeply unhappy when the coach told him what he expected from him, particularly in the way of comportment, on and off the court.

The player grew agitated, words got heated, the player exploded and then ...

This was not Latrell Sprewell and P.J. Carlesimo. It was LeVar Folk and Dennis Wolff. Who?

Folk is the point guard for Boston University, Wolff the coach.

There were no blows in the incident, though The Boston Globe reported that Folk "went off in a verbal tirade that nearly became physical."

Folk, a 5-foot-11-inch junior from Monsignor McClancy High School in Queens, New York, was suspended indefinitely. The incident came, the coach said, after several run-ins on subjects from missing classes to being late for practice. Folk later apologized, but the suspension held.

"There's just too much of this stuff going on," Wolff said Monday from his office in Boston. What did he mean by "stuff?"

"The respect for authority has eroded. A line that I never thought guys would cross is crossed more and more easily every year. And it's not just with coaches. It's with authority figures across the board.

"But in basketball, if you tell a guy that you want him to improve his free-throw shooting, he takes it that you don't like him. You know, 'You're dissing me.' You don't like what you're being told, you say whatever you want back."

Wolff has been a college basketball coach for 20 years, first as head coach at Connecticut College, then as an assistant at Trinity, St. Bonaventure, Wake Forest, Southern Methodist and Virginia, before he took the head job at Boston four years ago.

He played high school ball at Holy

Vantage Point / **IRA BERKOW**

Cross in Queens and college ball at Louisiana State and Connecticut.

"I've given my life to basketball," he said, "and I've seen the changes firsthand." Wolff said that if he had come home from school and told his father that he had told the coach to take a hike, his father would have taken him "right back to the school and made me apologize."

One problem, Wolff said, is that many players from the inner city did not have a strong fatherly presence at home, and life there can lead to frustrations. "You can't embarrass players in front of the group," he said. "Even if you're a screamer — I'm not — you still have to be sensitive. Responsibility goes both ways."

But he also said that for a coach, "if you allow guys to dictate to you, it's over."

And players who have been "coddled," as Wolff said, since the sixth or seventh grade believe they can get away with whatever they like. In the pros, the coddling amounts to millions of dollars.

"But there must be a return to some accountability for bad behavior," he said. "And there must be consequences." This goes to the heart of the matter, regardless of race.

When Arn Tellem, the agent for Sprewell, was asked Sunday whether racism was a factor in his client's attack on Carlesimo, he replied: "You have a white coach who has a history of having problems with players in the NBA. Obviously, the players that he's had problems with are black players."

That was irresponsible at best and poisonous at worst. Tellem knows that if a coach is going to have a problem with a player in the National Basketball Association, the player will probably be a black, because 80 percent of the league's players are black. (Of course, it's true that most of the coaches are white.)

The agent also knows that Sprewell has had run-ins with black teammates.

Two years ago, Sprewell threatened to shoot a teammate, Jerome Kersey; last year he menacingly berated B.J. Armstrong in the middle of a game for not passing him the ball, and before that he acted similarly to Tim Hardaway.

When asked Sunday about race and the Sprewell-Carlesimo incident, Billy Hunter, executive director of the National Basketball Players Association, said, "I don't think that that's the issue at all." Hunter is black.

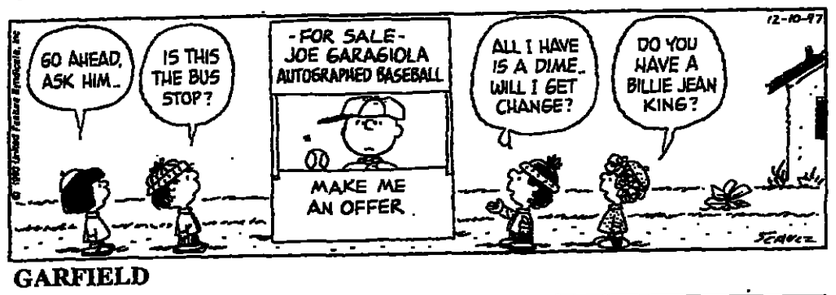
"Deep down," Dennis Wolff said, "guys know what the deal is."

The deal ought to be, as Wolff said, "accountability for bad behavior." Nothing more, nothing less.

DENNIS THE MENACE

"WHATEVER HAPPENED TO CHICKEN SOUP?"

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBES

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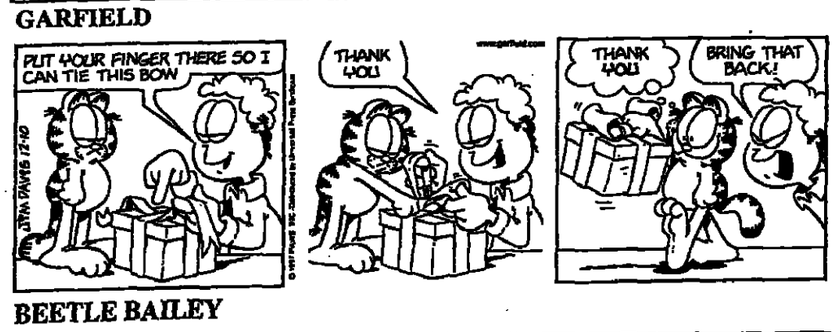

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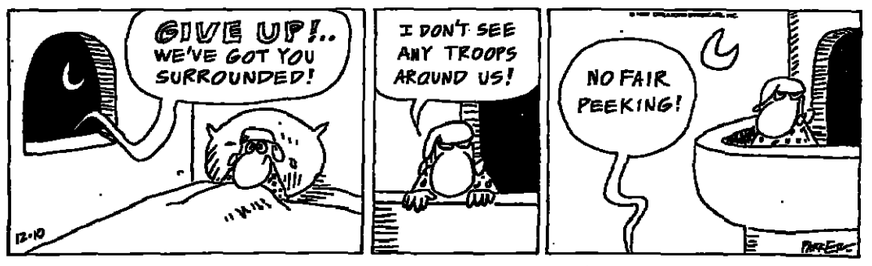

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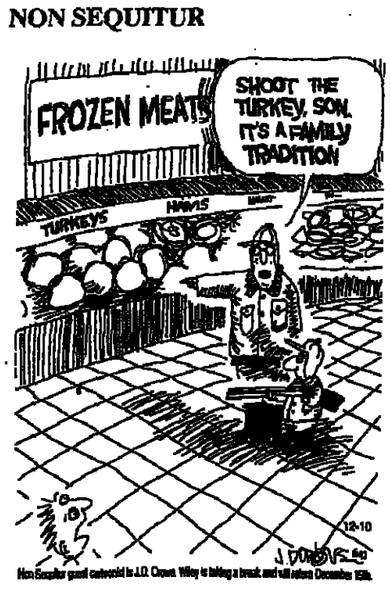

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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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CAFFEE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PARCH CLEFT JOBBER POTENT
Answer: Building a dog house for Fido turned into this — A PET PROJECT

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OBSERVER

Manhattan Twinkle

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — I wanted to write something about the breathtaking beauty of Manhattan in December. And what is the result? A roundup of the usual clichés. The evening light becomes "magical." Christmas lights in trees, windows and hotel lobbies "sparkle like diamonds" against "the black velvet night."

There is much more that is worse. I have thrown it in the trash.

F. Scott Fitzgerald wrote wonderfully about the beauty of Manhattan. Fitzgerald's Manhattan evenings are glorious not only because his New York is a glorious city, but also because he sees it through eyes that are young and yearning, and not yet so hardened by experience that they look too closely for tinsel.

Fitzgerald's beautiful Manhattan was a summer place. Under lavender skies of late afternoon he hurried down thrilling avenues to meet irresistible New York girls.

I am of an age now to think of them as New York women, but they are still irresistible, though not so irresistible in summer as in December. In December almost everything in this amazing city is irresistible.

In summer New York is not amazing, except perhaps to the latest crop of young Fitzgeralds. Do they still rush off at sunset to rendezvous in darkened bars of East Side hotels? Oh, those dark and lovely bars! And the shock of the ice-cold martini, and the piano playing the bittersweet songs of Rodgers and Hart. And . . .

Enough. It is December that is New York's month for people of all ages. The lights are a big part of it. Because night comes in midafternoon at this season, long before quitting time, the office towers blaze with light.

A million windows lighted in the city's gigantic file-cabinet towers work something like a miracle. By daylight these overbearing office boxes are often monstrous. In a December midafternoon, however, even the nightmarish architecture of Sixth Avenue becomes beautiful.

The mercantile bustle in streets and shops is part of it, too. New York is first and foremost a market town. Its primary business is selling. Its chief topic of conversation is money.

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All the rest of it — the art, the music, the theater — exists only because New York is such a prosperous market town that its citizens can afford to support a few cultural amenities.

December is the great month in this place where commerce is king. Honking, bleating cars sit bumper to bumper, making a joyous noise unto the lords of commerce and filling the air with oily grit. It is as if absolutely everybody has come to town. Business is roaring.

The astonishing light that is Thomas Edison's gift to New York and the exciting busyness of crowded streets make the city feel as if a great festival is in progress. Indeed, one is. The city is celebrating the triumph of commerce.

At times the place suggests an absurdly oversized village, and please let us not argue the point. I am too delighted with this ravishing December New York to engage in sour disputation. Yes, I have seen the beggars with their cardboard cups upheld. It is a tough town, too, a terribly tough town, but also this December — I'll say it anyhow — magical.

New York Times Service

Small Is Beautiful on Moscow's Opera Scene

By Daniel Williams
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — On stage, the pyramids were only two feet tall, and instead of elephants, little children paraded during the Triumphal March scene. Practically speaking, there was no other choice for this production of Verdi's majestic "Aida." It was performed in a theater the size of a small ballroom.

But in Moscow opera these days, small is beautiful. The city is experiencing an opera renaissance, spearheaded by daring companies playing in intimate theaters to standing-room-only crowds. Suddenly, in a single season you can see five different productions of Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin." Eleven operas were performed in a recent week.

There is still, of course, the Bolshoi Theater, the pink neoclassical temple of culture downtown. But the rebirth of opera is not taking place there. Most of the Bolshoi's productions this year were panned as out-of-date leftovers from a stiff Soviet era. The Bolshoi's traditional dominance is being challenged by the clutch of new or revived companies whose intrepid productions have attracted praise in Russia and invitations to perform abroad.

"There's an opera boom in Moscow," wrote the critic Valeri Kichin in Izvestia. "The halls are full of young people. There's a festival atmosphere by the door."

Oleg Nachinkin

The production of "Aida" at the Helikon Theater in Moscow.

Alexander Parin, one of the country's leading opera experts, said, "There is a lot of opera now, maybe even an excess, because there was too little before, under too much control. Moscow is ready for this. It's a wide open world, and experimentation is everywhere."

In all of Europe, perhaps only Berlin is experiencing a similar blossoming. The outpouring of new productions has come from talented directors and artists eager to make their way in Russia's new artistic marketplace. They have secured funding from the city of Moscow and attracted a young audience thirsty for culture and fun.

The most talked-about of the new companies makes its home at the Helikon Theater, which is housed in an 18th-century mansion on Bolshaya Nikitskaya Street. The operas are performed in a high-ceiling, colonnaded room that seats 250 spectators around a 50-piece orchestra (there is no pit) in front of a small stage. Helikon's director, Dmitri Bertman, is 30. His productions are inevitably audacious.

His small-pyramid "Aida," for example, took place in an ancient Egypt that he portrayed as a police state. His costumers grafted pharaonic garb onto Nazi-style uniforms and the pageantry, albeit with a reduced chorus, resembled a Communist-era parade on Red Square more than anything familiar to King Tut. The marching children wore scarves reminiscent of the Communist youth groups. Reviews praised the acting, calling it subtle in contrast to a competing Bolshoi production that one critic attacked as "overwrought."

Verdi's "La Traviata" was played at the Helikon on a large four-poster bed. Bizet's "Carmen" took place against a brick wall, framed by a Dumpster and a wrecked car that occasionally served as a brothel. Performers in Donizetti's "Don Pasquale" performed among the audience, while the orchestra played on stage. "Our main task is to bring in young people and to make opera widely appealing and not just an elite art," said Nina Lotoba, a top assistant of Bertman.

Two other popular new companies were born in small halls: the Novaya Opera (250 seats), directed by Yevgeni Kolobov, and the Chamber Opera (180 seats), run by Boris Pokrovsky. Each has won fame outside Russia. Kolobov took "Eugene Onegin" to Broadway last month, while Pokrovsky's troupe is planning a trip to Japan. Alexander Titel, director of the revived Stanislavsky/Nemirovich-Danchenko Theater, which performs in a bigger venue, is negotiating in Amsterdam to take Rimsky-Korsakov's "Tale of the Tsar Saltan" there.

The opera craze is perhaps surprising, since many Russian stars have left for higher salaries in the West. The exodus has led some critics to complain there are no tenors left.

The new impresarios disagree. "Russia is rich in talent," said Kolobov. "Pay is small here, the audience can also not afford the prices for tickets like in the West. But even the stars come back if there is something interesting going on."

Kolobov, who worked many years in the provincial town of Sverdlovsk, attributes the opera revival to the freedoms that succeeded the Soviet system. "We no longer have to take into account some bureaucrat at the Ministry of Culture," he said. "We can now have contact with artists from abroad. Politics doesn't enter into it."

Titel said the number of productions is a reflection of artists "trying to make up for lost time."

"The spring is unwound. Excesses, of course, are inevitable. But there is a healthy start in this chaos," he said.

Titel, who once let student actors perform Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro" in a theater lobby, compared Moscow's current artistic atmosphere to turn-of-the-century St. Petersburg. In the old czarist capital, theater, poetry and painting all flourished during a period of political unrest. "Change is happening here at an incredible speed, and the theater is quick to reflect it," he said. "Like in St. Petersburg, some of the creations are terrible, some good. Eventually, a process of selection will occur and the best will survive."

He and other directors praise Mayor Yuri Luzhkov for providing subsidies, with no artistic strings attached. Luzhkov, whose city government owns numerous businesses, has provided money for other artistic projects. Moscow's art establishment has sharply criticized most of the projects — in particular, his patronage of a sculptor who constructed a huge, cartoonish statue of Peter the Great on the banks of the Moscow River. His support for the opera, however, has won only applause.

"We don't know exactly where he gets his money, but we hope he gets more of it," Titel said.

The state-sponsored Bolshoi often seems to be a dinosaur when compared with its competitors. But on occasion, it too seems capable of rising to new artistic freedom. Critics widely praised a production of Prokofiev's "Love for Three Oranges," directed by the actor Peter Ustinov. A critic in Ekspert Magazine, in an article titled "Miracle at the Bolshoi," wrote: "Something happened to the performers of the Bolshoi Theater. They no longer shuffled aimlessly about the stage and didn't adopt clichéd poses. They played living characters. . . . It has become a sign of good taste to criticize the Bolshoi of late, but it has finally staged a worthy production.

BOOKS

'Medieval Journey' Goes Astray

By Doreen Carvajal
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The academic attacks on a tale of a medieval voyager who apparently beat Marco Polo to China are widening, with more scholars dismissing the newly published book as a clever forgery.

The book, "The City of Light," has been published in Britain, where sales have been strong, but its release in the United States has been delayed as the scholarly debate intensifies. The latest critique was Tuesday afternoon, when a University of London professor in Chinese history scheduled a lecture there titled "The Faking of 'The City of Light.'" And in recent weeks other scholars, in Tel Aviv and London, reported finding an Arabic word in the author's glossary that they say was tantamount to finding the word Oldsmobile in the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Critics say it is like finding the word Oldsmobile in the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The level of scholarly vitriol is such that historians have abandoned their customary dry conversation. "It's unanimous," said Benjamin Braude, a history professor at Boston College. "The book stinks. The book is a fraud."

"City of Light" is said by its writer, a former Oxford University professor, to be a translation of a secret manuscript written in the 13th century by Jacob of Ancona, an Italian Jewish merchant who chronicled his journey to a busy port in southeastern China where he discovered "a city of measureless trade" torn by debates about issues still current today.

The writer, who describes himself as the book's translator, is David Selbourne, 60, a Briton who lives in Urbino, Italy. He did not respond to requests for an interview, but has said he was allowed to read the manuscript only on condition that he not show the original to others or reveal its owner's identity.

After publication of a review questioning the book's authenticity, Selbourne replied with a letter to The Times of London's Literary Supplement, asking in jest for a group of academics, or a "literary Public Safety Committee," to prepare a "common critique." "In fact it is all too late," Selbourne wrote, after making the suggestion. "Jacob's argosy is well and truly launched upon the high seas, and nothing — certainly not the harpoons of the critics vainly pursuing in the wake — can stop its passage."

The book was published in Britain by Little, Brown & Co., but in September its sister company in the United States postponed the Nov. 3 publication date. For the moment, the fate of the book remains "in a holding pattern," said Beth Davey, director of publicity for the company in New York.

Alison Menzies, a Little, Brown publicist for "The City of Light" in Britain, said the book was selling well there, though she did not give specific figures. "This is a book that we published with the Christmas market in mind," Menzies said, "and we haven't been disappointed."

Since the book's postponement in the United States, criticism has only intensified. Bernard Wasserstein, president of the Oxford Center for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, and his brother, David, professor of Islamic history at Tel Aviv University, say they are convinced that it is a fraud because of Jacob's use of the word "mellah," which they contend did not exist in his lifetime.

While sailing south through the Persian Gulf, Jacob reaches the Persian shore at the entrance to the gulf, where he describes a "mellah," a small Jewish quarter, according to a glossary written by Selbourne.

"Mellah" is roughly equivalent to "ghetto," said David Wasserstein, who added that it did not come into popular usage until more than 150 years after Jacob's purported voyage. The root of the word is salt, and the word is derived from a community near a salt marsh in Fez, Morocco, where Jews gathered after 1438.

"We can say conclusively that this case is proven," Wasserstein said, "because it requires something parallel to the appearance of 'Oldsmobile' or 'shopaholism' in the Dead Sea Scrolls."

Inside Oxford University, where Selbourne taught the history of ideas at Ruskin College, he still has some supporters. "He told me, looking me in the face, that this is genuine," said Tudor Parfitt, a professor of modern Jewish studies at the University of London. "I tend to believe in what people tell me. I believe him an honorable man, but some of the criticisms are fairly difficult to counter. What we're all waiting for is him to come out of his corner with his manuscript."

PEOPLE

CANDLE flames blew at the window and peonies spilled from classical urns as stars turned out in New York to celebrate the Metropolitan Museum's exhibition of the work of slain fashion designer Gianni Versace. **Elton John** stood beside **Donatella Versace** to receive European fashion designers, who included **Nino Cerruti, Gianfranco Ferre, John Galliano** (in highwayman frock coat), **Jean Paul Gaultier** (in a Chinese cheongsam), **Karl Lagerfeld, Alexander McQueen** and **Valentino**. The American contingent was led by **Ralph Lauren** and **Calvin Klein**. Among a gridlock of fashionables, were **Claudia Schiffer** with fiancé **David Copperfield**, the actor **Rupert Everett, Princess Marie Chantal** of Greece and **Princess Rosario** of Bulgaria. The gala dinner was followed by **Sting** in concert and a tribute from **Madonna** to Donatella Versace, who said that her brother's dream had been to be exhibited at the Met.

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The Museum of Modern Art in New York has selected the design of **Yoshio Taniguchi**, an architect based in Tokyo, for its expansion. Museum officials said they expected to begin construction in two to three years. The selection committee chose Taniguchi's plan from a list of three finalists that also included the partners **Jacques Herzog** and **Pierre de Meuron** of Switzerland and **Bernard Tschumi** of New York.

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A judge who said he was running out of ways to rehabilitate **Robert Downey Jr.** has sent the actor to jail. **Lawrence Mira**, a municipal judge in Malibu, California, had avoided giving Downey prison time after a string of drug arrests and second chances. Mira had even altered the actor's probation schedule so Downey could keep making movies. But the judge sentenced the actor to six months in jail after he broke the terms of his probation. Downey was led out of the courtroom in handcuffs. "I have no excuses," Downey said. "I find myself defenseless." He was sentenced last year to three years' probation after pleading no contest to drug and weapons charges and he spent about three months in a rehabilitation program. The probation was revoked Oct. 17, when his drug counselor told authorities that Downey had used drugs and alcohol in September.

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Mick Jagger and **Jerry Hall** have a new baby. Hall gave birth early Tuesday in London to a boy, **Gabriel Luke Beauregard Jagger**. They have three other children, and Jagger also has two other older daughters.

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Exactly 100 days after her death, the world of ballet paid tribute to **Diana, Princess of Wales**, at a gala she would have been attending. The English National Ballet's performance of "The Nutcracker" was dedicated to Diana, and her place at the gala was taken by her former brother-in-law, **Prince Andrew**, who told the dancers afterward, "The Princess of Wales would have absolutely adored it. It was quite outstanding." . . . The handwritten lyrics to "Candle in the Wind 1997," **Elton John**'s funeral tribute to Diana, will be sold at auction. Proceeds from the Feb. 11 sale at Christie's in Los Angeles will be donated to the Children's Hospital there.

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The contents of the apartment in the Dakota in New York into which **Leonard Bernstein** and his wife moved in 1974, will be sold at auction at Sotheby's on Wednesday and Thursday. "It's awful to say good-bye to a place that you love, but we really knew it was time to move on," said **Jamie Bernstein Thomas**, describing the dismantling process she and her siblings, **Nina Bernstein** and **Alexander Bernstein**, went through. **Leonard Bernstein** died in 1990 and their mother, **Felicia Montealegre Cohn**, in 1978. A portion of the proceeds from the auction will go to the Bernstein Education Through the Arts Fund.

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When **Ralph Fiennes** read the script for the movie "Oscar and Lucinda" and discovered its quirky male lead, he declared, "I am Oscar." Fiennes, who plays the oddball loner in the movie based on **Peter Carey**'s novel of the same name, said "There is something in Oscar I feel an empathy for. It is something to do with faith and guilt and conscience, with the struggle between spiritual aspiration and the recognition of the pleasures of being alive."

Nick Ut/The Associated Press

Robert Downey Jr. being led out of the courtroom in handcuffs.

Spielberg's 'Amistad' to Open on Schedule

New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — A federal judge has rejected an author's request to halt the release of the Steven Spielberg movie, "Amistad," in New York and Los Angeles on Wednesday.

But in making the decision, Judge Audrey R. Collins of District Court allowed the author, Barbara Chase-Riboud, to continue her $10 million copyright infringement lawsuit against Spielberg's company, Dreamworks. The suit is set to be heard early next year.

Chase-Riboud said that Dreamworks and Spielberg took portions of her 1989 historical novel, "Echo of Lions," about a revolt of African slaves, for the movie and failed to give her credit or money. Spielberg, as well as the writer, David Franzoni, denied having read "Echo of Lions," and said the movie was based on historical facts, not copyrighted material.

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